

Morning Consult Health, Presented by America's 340B Hospitals: Appeals Court Allows House Democrats to Intervene in ACA Lawsuit

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By Brian Yermal Jr. <<mailto:byermal@morningconsult.com>>

Morning Consult Health will be off Monday for Presidents Day. Publication of the morning newsletters and afternoon updates will resume the following day.

Top Stories

* The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals will let House Democrats intervene in a case in which a federal judge ruled that the Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional after Congress terminated the law's penalty on consumers who do not have health insurance. The court also declined a request from Democratic attorneys general to expedite the case by holding oral arguments in July. (

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775dfab2c96392d589ef657ce7e4260754720c801695afb46f3f2938f05d6479743ec9a40b24de6d2f3>> Politico)

* President Donald Trump is expected to sign spending legislation during a 10 a.m. event at the White House that would fund federal agencies including the Food and Drug Administration, averting a government shutdown. Trump said he would declare a national emergency to secure additional funding for a U.S.-Mexico border wall, which would allow him to divert money from other government programs, including \$2.5 billion from the Department of Defense drug interdiction program, government officials said. (

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775aebe13eba48bf978a8cb8473d1dd04a14d02f36084534399ff7da92cefbe8f2d9fecab24907b8f22>> The Washington Post)

* Gilead Sciences Inc. is facing a whistleblower lawsuit that alleges the pharmaceutical company provided kickbacks to providers, government agencies and other groups to increase sales of its hepatitis and HIV drugs. The lawsuit by Allen Kuo, which is alleging \$3.4 billion in damages, contends that Gilead's Frontlines of Communities in the United States program paid for doctors' salaries, patient travel to screenings, upgrades to provider medical software and other incentives, which the lawsuit says resulted in unnecessary tests and prescriptions for Gilead's drugs. (

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775f3218d64d528d817766e0b174d3680288cbf848a4105f3268e7a899ed2592e1cafd21f109bb1c0b>> Modern Healthcare)

Chart Review

Potential Effects of Work Requirements in Montana's Medicaid Program

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907756f0bfb1ca0135b4b4d99ce7d958800b3cd40b90ff848b861a95b6ca1ba03f2ef8e1c4e491f9ccf8b>>

George Washington University

<<https://morningconsult.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Screen-Shot-2019-02-15-at-9.09.01-AM.png>>

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

02/15/2019

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society Conference 2019

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775c1ad0bcd9b149bc23e884f1f97e35378a23a5d0d4b6bec523185fbeb0886f095a3ec11c2f081c730>>

Expert Meeting on Understanding the Effects of Intersectionality on Sexual and Gender Minorities

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a69077552f4c9d511d30d3dfac9abb52f44968fa074d77c6bae6b593e6a3379efc8b2e990bff9f731ab2e71>> 9:00 am

AEI discussion: If one part of Affordable Care Act is ruled unconstitutional, what is the proper remedy or resolution?

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907758e80b8bec55f2c4a17854824b6cc7c727467388458d2d6ae30694d84428dcd0f7e77e224b2cd0dae>> 12:30 pm

View full calendar

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907756a86a09384ac03ab526a9738e31a3ea63fe87685989186b2cbe01ed2fda48b8b58ddfd0c8529186>>

SPONSORED BY AMERICA'S 340B HOSPITALS

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907750b87c3d8009734ae9306b2e61378f274a660ac0a8d483494aacfc9aeb55c0f45eaf319505f64163d>>

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907750b87c3d8009734ae9306b2e61378f274a660ac0a8d483494aacfc9aeb55c0f45eaf319505f64163d>>

Cut Drug Prices. Not 340B.

At no cost to taxpayers, the 340B program is critical to the health of America's patients because it allows hospitals serving vulnerable communities to address the health care needs of their communities, including providing free or substantially discounted prescriptions to low-income and rural patients, operating free clinics, treating patients with substance use disorders, and sustaining access to other lifesaving services for patients. Weakening this vital program will hurt patients.

General

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775c422e51a0cc83f140cf19e9093a3b7e21ff4bc23067910b6f75a980614a805f55383de352473a9a6>> NAFTA 2.0's impact on drug prices is more complicated than some

Democrats are implying

Ike Swetlitz, Stat News

Some House Democrats are raising new concerns about a landmark Trump administration trade agreement, implying that it will weaken the bipartisan effort to lower prescription drug prices. But experts tell STAT that the treaty won't actually increase prices or stifle competition in the U.S.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907750468fc95ff55fc070bcdab52e98bb93b960f8bb39723a9e939074fefcc81a79318175b435393a4>> CDC: Flu shot kept about 50% from going to doctor

Nathaniel Weixel, The Hill

This year's flu shot has prevented about half the people vaccinated from getting sick enough to need to go to the doctor, according to new federal data.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907759f831bc1e7569b23b691f2dfb9cac5aa12c298ef567042c2e1300a47b7bb63a57d4b748e48388edf>> Md. considers safe-injection centers to reduce harm of opioid addiction
Samantha Hogan and Heather Mongilio, The Frederick News-Post

Samantha Kerr faced her palms upward and silently took a deep breath to calm herself as she waited to testify in front of the Senate Finance Committee on Thursday. When it was her turn, Kerr started by telling lawmakers this was the last place she wanted to be today.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775ea0527462305cd91ab1860c6df7d13cc84032b97214f54ec984a356044140b60f4785c63a17def8a>> The turncoat lobbyist pushing Medicare for All
Kimberly Leonard, Washington Examiner

Wendell Potter knows all the arguments against a government-financed healthcare system in the U.S., because he used to make them himself when he led communications for the health insurance giant Cigna. A decade later, he is fighting against those same arguments, seeking to expose what he now views as a deeply flawed and inefficient healthcare system.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba7e85d8bb09a3f8988bc50415a15831a33917b9f0c0215bf3fe5cd610ab8495a0172fb2fe98adb230>> U.S. Futures Steady as European Stocks, Oil Climb: Markets Wrap
Eddie van der Walt, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures edged higher, tracking a rally in European stocks as investors shrugged off lingering doubts about global growth and the outlook for trade to end the week on a positive note. Treasuries held steady and the dollar advanced.

Payers

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba31e0ec3e2ca7f79fb0e39c72a6d32e181075e5b37c14e748b41041415c044fbb3d9a3b4f87dc54c5>> Medicare to allow ambulances more leeway in where they take patients for care
Kimberly Leonard, Washington Examiner

Medicare will start paying ambulances for taking patients to healthcare facilities other than the emergency department under a plan the Trump administration rolled out Thursday.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba77815577245e73c446f8d02e8a176a4f0edfaddcebb6a011b7254aa13c8ed620e699024ac393544>> Payers, providers push back on Democrats' Medicare buy-in plan
Jacqueline Renfrow, FierceHealthcare

Earlier this week, Democrats introduced a bill that would allow people ages 50 and over to buy in to Medicare coverage, and the plan is already getting pushback from payers and providers. Under the most recent proposal, people between the ages of 50 and 65 could buy a Medicare plan and qualify for subsidies and tax credits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Providers

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba0bfb080bcc5650a4d2d36b6451a6f6c5d82b6599c8339ef6fc25cdf1884371841af16c23f642dde3>> Hospitals are making a lot of money on outpatient drugs
Bob Herman, Axios

Hospitals are reaping big windfalls from commonly used drugs, marking them up 3-7 times above their average sales

prices, according to an analysis by Wall Street firm AllianceBernstein.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbade97750b83b5e4110a0a5d8bf42300f66a9dc048f24372709063fa8514116e5f67a1c0bf6c1cdab9>> DaVita's profits drop as it works to close medical group sale
Tara Bannow, Modern Healthcare

DaVita's profit took a hit in 2018 as the company works to close on the sale of its medical group to UnitedHealth Group.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba22e906f939705d21a22deaa07cb1681ab2f6b1f74025c246884d5e7f5f4edcee10e5e25ba05231fd>> J&J and Novartis back cancer geneticist's immunotherapy start-up
Hannah Kuchler, Financial Times

Siddhartha Mukherjee, the cancer geneticist and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer who is working on a novel way to expand immunotherapies for blood cancers, has raised \$42m for his start-up Vor Biopharma.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbaf4b0490e5000c867c154e80f8e2dd240bc2c0627f900070916ec3b280a8cbc0b183009ef1235ee36>> Big Pharma's GOP firewall is weakening
Caitlin Owens, Axios

Congressional Republicans are increasingly open to cracking down on the tactics pharmaceutical companies use to keep competition at bay - changes that were once a non-starter for the GOP.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba0501ce2bd94588cfce0c374a64ff1c9265d0facd1f8bc0aa3337659df69503305c8bb0dae66915fd>> 23andMe is upending how we find new drugs, and the CEO says 13 are now in early trials
Erin Brodwin, Business Insider

Could 23andMe-branded drugs one day grace the shelves of your medicine cabinet? Anne Wojcicki, the cofounder and CEO of the Silicon Valley genetic testing startup, said it would be a "source of pride" if that happened.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba3978a74f92815852a3dbdadccc5cea27978d8298132418792c067927a913a0b0fa9666d27b3cc62f>> Former CEO said he was made the 'fall guy' for opioid maker Insys
Maria Cramer, Boston Globe

In the summer of 2015, Michael Babich noticed a marked change in his relationship with John Kapoor, the man who had mentored him and made him CEO of his opioid manufacturing company. Kapoor, the founder of Insys Therapeutics, used to call him six or seven times a day, Babich testified in federal court Thursday, but now was only calling occasionally.

Health IT

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba416ed642fd5a38825d493e26bc4fcfa4fa217c037fcc90add4616a04737dd0a020e7ee27bd6f9de2>> They've Taken America's Temperature - and It's Running High
Donald G. McNeil Jr., The New York Times

Americans are suffering through a very bad cold season - but not a terrible flu season, which would be far more threatening, according to the makers of a smart thermometer that accurately tracked last year's highly lethal flu season.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba997258f35306c99e603e604060754028b6c514468db555694c420eb99333e0d135cc72ff417d5f94>> He went hunting for gold-standard research on artificial intelligence in medicine - and didn't find much
Rebecca Robbins et al., Stat News

By now everyone's heard about the potential of artificial intelligence in medicine to revolutionize things like interpreting medical data and predicting patient outcomes. And everyone's probably heard plenty, too, about how much hype is out there about what these algorithms can actually do.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba97aa1e5c74d39c57df5b8cadfa799129291b651267a56d8ba50f32f58dad25f25c71cd9628d536e0>> Glimpsing The Future At Gargantuan Health Tech Showcase
Phil Galewitz, Kaiser Health News

Imagine going to the doctor and finding out before you leave the exam room how much your prescribed drug will cost, avoiding sticker shock at the pharmacy. Or what if you could wear a tiny device at the top of your back that would gently nudge you to sit up straight whenever you slump.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbad270836a5ef7d495b91901d71e6a4279b0f85abe19c037c50fe359080884c090c775113b62b12551>> Health tech is so old-fashioned that Google had to adapt its cloud service to work with fax machines
Christina Farr, CNBC

Last year at the HIMSS health care conference, former Google CEO and chairman Eric Schmidt noted that health care is still in the "stone age," and is reliant on fax machines and pagers. This week, at the same conference in Orlando, Google seems to have acknowledged that the medical world's stone age technology is here to stay for the foreseeable future.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba68113abda80ce2e764f9581c867f806a476952ce4f43f259c86e82a58619f576670f644148dc4c23>> Economic Analysis Falls Short When It Comes to Medicines' Value
Robert Popovian, Morning Consult

For the past two decades, a plethora of organizations identified by various innocuous acronyms (e.g., NICE - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) has tried to convince policymakers, providers and patients among others that economic analysis or modeling ought to be used to determine drug coverage decisions. They have tried to define value and insert value as a component into models so that they may analyze the appropriateness of payment for a pharmaceutical.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbae5db4cc316aae256afddf8dbbecc7af7a2e0bc88a8301ee419dfa1bd187dd6ea17f13bf13e1bd92d>> Americans have the right to know their health care and hospital costs
Seema Verma, Stat News

Americans are prolific shoppers, constantly on the lookout for the best price for top-quality products and services. If you are searching for a new television, it's easy to find prices and statistics transparently and prominently displayed at just about every store.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba4fbec460f1f29a6a5d1cbc93ffc8be5d0edc39b12f2fe6688835a836e246dc85c8edaaf330fe6acf>> Will Republicans Start Winning on Health Care?
James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal

Prices of health care products and services have been rising very slowly in the Trump era. Meanwhile the President's opponents are embracing increasingly radical plans for the sector.

A Message from America's 340B Hospitals:

At no cost to taxpayers, the 340B program is critical to the health of America's patients because it allows hospitals serving vulnerable communities to address the health care needs of their communities, including providing free or substantially discounted prescriptions to low-income and rural patients, operating free clinics, treating patients with substance use disorders, and sustaining access to other lifesaving services for patients. Weakening this vital program will hurt patients.

Research Reports

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907756f0bfb1ca0135b4b4d99ce7d958800b3cd40b90ff848b861a95b6ca1ba03f2ef8e1c4e491f9ccf8b>> Potential Effects of Work Requirements in Montana's Medicaid Program
Leighton Ku and Erin Brantley, Milken Institute School of Public Health and George Washington University

In 2016, Montana expanded its Medicaid program under the Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP) Act. Legislators are considering a bill, the Medicaid Reform and Integrity Act (MeRIA), to impose work requirements ("community engagement") and terminate Medicaid insurance coverage if beneficiaries work less than 20 hours a week for three or more months. This analysis is based on a draft of the bill dated February 5, 2019.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba629f603e7390507c3a85ab5c4866111a55d83091d94abf9a55e9b2622d9adad19aba1974d7ebaaaa>>
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<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbaba6b8e5f915a06d9d56d6667f0adebb3e138f5cab57a60ebef6c462ef2ba2ca115d01d265b71ff04>>
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Morning Consult Health: Kaiser Permanente to Waive Tuition for First 5 Classes of New Medical School

From: Morning Consult <reply@e.morningconsult.com>
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By Brian Yermal Jr. <mailto:byermal@morningconsult.com>

Top Stories

* Kaiser Permanente plans to waive tuition for all of its students in the first five graduating classes of its new medical school set to open in Pasadena, Calif., in 2020, joining the New York University School of Medicine in providing a tuition-free medical education to attract prospective students who might avoid medical school due to the cost. While neither school will cover room and board, Kaiser will offer its students health coverage through its insurance system. (<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab948f7226317ea632b18a84af738655c32f2dad4c8e43518f71d3827cfc7cb8b65aab3f77c4437af0ce>> The New York Times)

* Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) announced his plans to run for president in the 2020 election, with an agenda that includes a "Medicare for all" health care system, just like his 2016 presidential platform. Sanders has introduced "Medicare for all" legislation that would provide health coverage for every American through a government plan and would eliminate private insurance. (<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f1fcfb8b346c514ad7ec8bc28c07ba97c4f869accf9f8a88d37e3a1b655a2a77c093b767a9c5893e>> The Washington Post)

* Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) threw his support behind a Medicare buy-in proposal that would expand the federal program to people age 50 and older, saying it's a plan that would "help people now" and improve the Affordable Care Act. Brown, who is considered a possible 2020 presidential candidate, said "Medicare for all," which has been promoted by other Democratic lawmakers and presidential candidates, would be "difficult" and "take a while" to implement. (<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab941762e6b8341d059a2cb5b71d9eb57b1ad227a762c0796f8e724212a2d390bbcedd4b227d8aace61b>> The Hill)

Chart Review

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab940924427ba7c600569aa3003ea7554e5d08f8e27a53fcbf04fa62d020b03f90bd528b6b557261d1c5>> Utilization and Spending Trends in Medicaid Outpatient Prescription Drugs
Kaiser Family Foundation

<<https://morningconsult.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Health-Chart-0219.png>>

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

02/20/2019

CVS Health Corp. fourth-quarter 2018 earnings call

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab941686aaff9943e8bfe9909ed767f005e6ecc5f41938bd14a61e9416a9424e8cf121df1dafb1d7ed8f>> 8:30 am

Brookings panel on

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab943aa0d3c9b3604192deb93f77f025d33413ba982ad85359b27fb0c72242c581561ec821a3087be7f5>> "Emerging policy solutions to surprise medical bills" 9:30 am
02/21/2019

AEI event featuring Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller discussing cigarette regulation, teens and trade-offs

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94c4ec6d273189107d8193b0eb8fd45f740c04695e87dd1587f330d08ab42397d7f5e742e2aee46e0a>> 2:00 pm

02/22/2019

Johns Hopkins Guest Lecture: Homer Venters to Discuss the Health Risks of Incarceration

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94d75b76f890b178347aa5162cebf8d327c786dcb52bcc4263f52c6276305f66ddc78be81c24e41526>> 12:00 pm

View full calendar

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<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94a08626c9412c09477e17a711046e40471848abcf1fc506747e7d81b7f9120431935a492c34b4ef0d>>

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The State of the Democratic Primary

On a daily basis, Morning Consult is surveying over 5,000 registered voters across the United States on the 2020 presidential election. Each week, we'll update this page with the latest survey data, offering an in-depth guide to how the race for the Democratic nomination is shaping up.

General

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab949d53176f7a35fb2ed586e7e7bdaae000132c5f1d66fac598661fe316705a3570ec724e7eb56e7c24>> Voter Initiatives, Including Medicaid Expansion, Could Get Harder to Pass
Stephanie Armour, The Wall Street Journal

Some Republican lawmakers are moving to curtail future state voter initiatives, posing a possible obstacle to supporters of Medicaid expansion, who are already locked in a bitter fight to preserve initiatives passed in the November midterm elections.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94cbfdc81c45a50ae89cdb9174d26ccfde5d34b99cf21c848731da7e6afccc8c78c22aa75deca6989f>> High stakes as Trump, Dems open drug price talks
Peter Sullivan, The Hill

Democrats and the Trump administration are beginning to hold talks on lowering drug prices as they look for a rare area of common ground. Both President Trump and congressional Democrats say that lowering drug prices is a priority, providing a potential area for bipartisan action in a government that is otherwise bitterly divided after a months-long fight over border security.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab941d727939ef0c1f466dc05f5cef284b1248cc28bc976121bcae1639345e7b4e8e7dcd3a292c03ef0f>> For 2020 Dem Hopefuls, 'Medicare-For-All' Is A Defining Issue, However They Define It

Democrats with 2020 presidential aspirations are courting the party's increasingly influential progressive wing and staking out ambitious policy platforms. Front and center are three words: Medicare. For. All.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94eba1a1d409107b5115bb0049cc16fc11c0b6b4a8752e6ef6cf63592d2a50b715f7b4b234b39d5de6>> Kamala Harris Faces Questions About 'Democratic Socialist' Label and Jussie Smollett in N.H. Debut
Katharine Q. Seelye, The New York Times

Senator Kamala Harris visited New Hampshire on Monday for the first time in her life, and quickly experienced the realities of being a presidential candidate: She faced questions from national reporters about her political ideology and her description of the alleged assault on the actor Jussie Smollett as "an attempted modern day lynching," followed by a town-hall-style forum with a big crowd of more than 1,000 voters.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab940dc46a2d096f47e9369d21efc712381bb4a1d225966b88333894ffddd50dfd2bb7f6387c54531b0b>> New Justice Dept. policies, new AG may mute False Claims Act whistleblowers
Harris Meyer, Modern Healthcare

Healthcare industry groups have always hated False Claims Act whistleblower lawsuits. These cases involve private individuals-usually knowledgeable insiders-accusing companies and individuals of defrauding federal programs in the hope of righting a wrong and collecting a share of the bounty for their work.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab942aace55142e731cfd1516578a4e5e48b56fef8657342466ebdec0091d41c27d5e7a664d86ec116>> Name and shame: HHS using disclosure, transparency to try to force change
Robert King, Modern Healthcare

To get healthcare's powerful players to behave as desired, HHS and its various units are increasingly turning to the same playbook: naming and shaming bad actors.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94eef13a3bd1b83d76da7000fd01e27099ed6b1e36be009eea625d27c74d2dd934bc4f36a6841673c>> U.S. Futures, Europe Stocks Retreat; Dollar Rises: Markets Wrap
Eddie van der Walt, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures fell and European stocks dropped as investors awaited fresh clues on the outlook for global trade and growth. The dollar strengthened and Treasuries were steady.

Payers

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f848dd7b77a70ac8d709c3a995f481fa50fbcd1411a35e28684d2d806f54ea503c20e565cfcb5906>> In Arkansas, Thousands Of People Have Lost Medicaid Coverage Over New Work Rule
NPR News

Grisel Sustache Flores takes a seat at a health clinic in Springdale, Ark., for low-income patients. The 46-year old Puerto Rico native says she learned last fall that she qualified for Medicaid, which Arkansas expanded under the Affordable Care Act to cover more adults.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab945bc2596317d57d20eeb1f876e39cbc3fe50dfff0d8fcbaac33c34df0f109e40f80ac28b612cde91>> Bill seeks to expand health insurance coverage for working poor

Barbara Hoberock, Tulsa World

A Senate panel passed a measure Monday aimed at reducing the number of Oklahomans without health insurance.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab9462f06a70e89fa4c26ef34da9b7f81ba43a55195719537c8eba421ff35bf934427ea7f6f3d8a1e91d>> Insurer Accused Of Selling Fake Comprehensive Health Plans; 'One Of The Most Egregious I've Seen'
CBS Miami

A South Florida man is accused of selling cut-rate insurance policies to more than ten thousand people across the country who believed they were buying comprehensive health coverage.

Providers

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f98dadf1b9ba4f23af0dafc882b4b2e177fbbb8f1d7ed563677d8efb51989be212811f9cbc5b405>> Hit by a city bus - and hit with a \$27,660 city hospital bill
Sarah Kliff, Vox

On July 9, 2016, Justin Zanders, 19, was walking down a San Francisco sidewalk when a pole hanging off the back of a public bus hit him in the face. A video shows the blow knocking Zanders to the ground, rendering him unconscious.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94a5d859fad55ea1ebe0516518923d3c83d6ac94197ad39486b28fe05c63c0c77e6f9ceef8fcd95723>> As McKinsey Sells Advice, Its Hedge Fund May Have a Stake in the Outcome
Michael Forsythe et al., The New York Times

The sins of Valeant Pharmaceuticals are well known. Instead of spending to develop new drugs, Valeant bought out other drugmakers, then increased prices of lifesaving medicines by as much as 5,785 percent. Patients had no choice but to pay.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94da265b52cf9155131950d30ff4ee10bc0cf270a8b3271e9891dffa7ec0c0e2ed36f7458cc48b7597>> Blockbuster drugs are stacking up orphan approvals
Caitlin Owens, Axios

Some of the best-selling drugs in the U.S. have stacked up extra federal protections that were initially intended to spark research into drugs that couldn't make money on their own.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94da4cd5e90ce6ed72e914af9deae91548878b46ef4d0a86aa2d7db0b57009b3d073aab948f0183c5d>> Here's how prosecutors say generic drug makers schemed to fix prices
Ed Silverman, Stat News

In one case, an executive at a pharmaceutical company had an employee email a competitor to discuss strategy. In another, a drug maker allegedly struck a bargain with another so that each company could maintain its respective market share.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f7022f78f104259357dc539540c65745cf2f616388b556c978fba705a4dbce0832077c95a5471c4e>> Stealth player is poised to win a CRISPR patent that could speed the development of therapies
Sharon Begley, Stat News

The usual suspects have done a fine job of turning the CRISPR patent landscape into a minefield for companies trying to figure out what intellectual property they need to make their hoped-for therapies, but an unusual suspect is about to mix things up even more.

Health IT

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab9451201880feaf729d4eaadb60ca7828416807d8385091d03d8e293da225d088be15385d47e5c60ccc>> PsyberGuide seeks to provide unbiased reviews of mental health apps, digital tools

Erin Blakemore, The New York Times

If you're struggling with anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder or depression, an app might help. But should you invest in a therapy app or one that only tracks symptoms?

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab9455ed7b74025165d1689b2ca85c6aae666c47c17800bcd51c2d1aecc2d8883c5cb7bb8af08cb5a87d>> FDA Says 'Aye Aye' to AI

Peter Pitts, Morning Consult

When it comes to regulatory science and the broader issues facing the Food and Drug Administration, there will always be significant gradations of nuance and ambiguity. "Predictability" is a trail that regulators and regulated must blaze together - sometimes heroically and at other times with greater caution.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f94497da07603d273256e05f01296ff9f9928bd1b8792833c58d112b3cf1d13a3d005417cc000d1a>> How Much Will Americans Sacrifice for Good Health Care?

The Editorial Board, The New York Times

It's been nearly 10 years since the passage of the Affordable Care Act - one of the most sweeping health care overhauls in the nation's history. The law has brought the number of uninsured people in America to an all-time low, secured protections for people with pre-existing conditions and advanced the notion that health care is a human right.

Research Reports

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94294750ff5910d6571064608dd10cf8e28b31972112142fb4949a8ab01d90c5cf01498542b8d94e00>> Medicare Consumer Survey
eHealth

This report presents findings from a survey of Medicare enrollees who purchased Medicare Advantage, Medicare Part D, or Medicare Supplement plans through websites operated by eHealth, Inc., including eHealthMedicare.com, GoMedigap.com, and Medicare.com (a nongovernment website). The survey was conducted on voluntary basis in January and February of 2019 and a total of 2,021 responses were collected.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94e37f9882d8fa563266fce503f902f98bf400b956fc0e709767166e85dde4b0b443ba862748bcbcd5>> Today's consumers reveal the future of healthcare

Accenture

The Accenture 2019 Digital Health Consumer Survey reveals a market shift in the United States. Healthcare consumers today are changing, and their expectations for convenience, affordability and quality are redefining how they engage at each stage of care.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab943d642ceebf1246ab5a784be8657fdbb8890e7cf787b8d8e2d25a9bc495e15f8f222d7ba82ce4b68>>
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Morning Consult Health: Biogen and Eisai Suspend Clinical Trials of Alzheimer's Drug

From: Morning Consult <reply@e.morningconsult.com>
To: james.f.bridenstine@nasa.gov, Bridenstine, James F. (HQ-AA000) <james.f.bridenstine@nasa.gov>
Sent: March 21, 2019 9:13:19 AM EDT
Received: March 21, 2019 9:13:58 AM EDT

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By Yusra Murad <mailto:ymurad@morningconsult.com>

Top Stories

- Biogen Inc. and Eisai Co. Ltd. are suspending two Phase 3 clinical trials evaluating the efficacy and safety of a drug for Alzheimer's disease, based on an independent analysis that aducanumab was not slowing the progression of the disease. Biogen shares have since tumbled 26 percent since its announcement, which is particularly troubling for those who believed targeting beta-amyloid - brain-destroying protein fragments - was the future of treatment for Alzheimer's. (Stat News <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f356641264b551666a6ec4b5c754652516b8e463a6e9abe10495097cce3d1f8131b782b52c7bd16a7&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=coBpKHu7Mv_w2dsKVkCJpYoeE-kCZdxS7UTTej7Zrll&e=>>)
- A new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found the increase in opioid overdose deaths linked to the synthetic opioid fentanyl, a drug with up to 50 times the potency of heroin, has been particularly sharp among racial minorities. The death rate among African-Americans from overdoses involving fentanyl grew an average of 141 percent every year from 2011 to 2016, compared to 118 percent for Hispanics and 61 percent for non-Hispanic whites, although the death rate remains highest among whites. (The Washington Post <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9feddf6c572b38f4eaf8eacc1676a9a4cd635d3c8fa1f48fa87c3405a7ee807f097edb8b9293cdf7b&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=2N5Wlk4ULOfRQAUCyZYP7NFgrbno_4Nr5UYry_7p6Ok&e=>>)
- Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant will sign a bill today banning most abortions after the detection of a fetal heartbeat, which usually occurs around six weeks into pregnancy. It will be one of the strictest abortion laws in the country if it takes effect as scheduled on July 1, with the Center for Reproductive Rights already planning to file a lawsuit against the state, as Georgia and Tennessee consider similar bills. (The Associated Press <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f75cb89597ddf4f9f6da49f0ade18f98145d13e711319151c0f5f27707254dc36f398415c3d192e73a&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=8EG2tnXUgG8sDPdwctx9SyEPIPxntCKEfUJ4agg0dUo&e=>>)

Chart Review

Fentanyl overdose deaths in the U.S. have been doubling every year

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Los Angeles Times

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

03/21/2019

2019 National HIV Prevention Conference <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f0c5ce7311bd3ac5a283c98349af7b5ef078fb422729466288fad0f4e3f1b07917c77a7806929b1e8&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=nyAW8fYk7PeRIIPnQoTLk1egOszeyeYFHowcxWFIqL0&e=>

Financial Times Digital Surgery Summit <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f7832f8cc6b07b67530822612ff7e5b3a132849ebe480328f64406def01f8961f55123904fc27b6bb&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=_Vh_y3fkDNFYLFq8DhbuEZtBsh7JFLbfPAWU6BwQJ7U&e=>

The Atlantic Innovators Lab: San Diego <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fbfb0004e7c6065f150333975ab4ee196d47c922153d6f2f2666b5b0c890445dc4ddfe8b2fa681fcb&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=NL0IT8L4O-rF6n5M_6ZSj_vLtby62NplwU25g8Qrff0&e=>

FDA Blood Products Advisory Committee Meeting <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fa8af183eb4d6a5e8158d472725e1afcbc196d24c6a5c52ebc6e683306974cc43dbfae9a9aeb898bf&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=1l8FKnbC80hl_hDtpYImYbTEmWscznFcjQ8TV0J6azg&e=>

FDA Neurological Devices Panel of the Medical Devices Advisory Committee Meeting
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Dialogue About the Workforce for Population Health Improvement: A Workshop

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8:00 am

Cato Institute hosts "Harm Reduction: Shifting from a War on Drugs to a War on Drug-Related Deaths"
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8:15 am

Bipartisan Policy Center event: Overcoming Health Care Challenges in Immigrant Communities
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10:00 am

03/22/2019

FDA Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting
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Brookings Institution: Emerging policy solutions to surprise medical bills
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-
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03/27/2019

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Workshop: Strategies for Effective Health Communication <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f638325346104754f253ab568d771642a449bb16630bbe5df6d1b45f31f8449cf5ba92d78a371ba47&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=LXyKHZtv7bkAYktcpE0MMA2YY6jwpjBy6SM1z7V1xrY&e=>

12:00 pm

03/28/2019

AcademyHealth 2019 Health Datapalooza <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fab4541c25c2d52c1c37a4348dec47958e62fab437bac8c747b1fa809d97d5736cab0302575d39558&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=jwafEzWQ7F-ZGXZYvlp-ZQXmeRpQS0IVUXAk-AW6v1s&e=>

Politico hosts: "Opioid Misuse, Hepatitis C and HIV: An Emerging Crisis"
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f1182e04045396c284a1b52c98fcc423afd4b6b656b4bd7f7edf28907f55e8f06ac2f1d6366896aca&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=4Gnj18UT3SvbA1XkzddqkFeYWzZdlQBHoAw_3EOcKTK8&e=>

8:30 am

View full calendar <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f182fd9d67cf4d21621028d20ed26fafd3eb0eaf2560ab29e5795d5681853b948bb9d555596294ff6&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=XsHtnNaysZ6qigigEpfnnr0j18MaBVvCIRZe_zlk7Mc&e=>

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The State of the Democratic Primary

On a daily basis, Morning Consult is surveying over 5,000 registered voters across the United States on the 2020 presidential election. Each week, we'll update this page with the latest survey data, offering an in-depth guide to how the race for the Democratic nomination is shaping up.

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f7b9103f14a6eae3f242b7057f6ac540a00268dff2d4afd91d87bb995152c026b7bbbc91f7e3aff62&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=LAGUaD-lj-tcTmB-9ABalhZ51--MHRdyWyb8McDGQMQ&e=>

General

Kansas lawmakers take big step toward expanding Medicaid <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fa29405817b724d3b5b099424c06534d6a28420e71c3796a4ce08edb4e290657c41fb031cb8039725&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=P1wMHeRxdjwcfVHlcBM4OMtyo_VdWPONBX0CdHr-xMY&e=>>
Jonathan Shorman, The Wichita Eagle

Kansas lawmakers took a major step Wednesday toward expanding Medicaid, a change that could extend health coverage to 150,000 Kansans but potentially cost \$47 million a year. Lawmakers, ignoring Republican objections, forced the House to debate Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly's Medicaid plan and advanced it on a 70-54 vote.

CVS has started selling cannabis-based products in 8 states <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fc8ba15f9d8ac44b736b62e815a6410ace9953d079d0eae3d3598920840b431d73c0882ea452adb&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=L7pxsil7BBHec35s_GVtzBzsPO2OgplcrS9saDRppwc&e=>>
Angelica LaVito and Maggie Fitzgerald, CNBC

CVS Pharmacy said on Wednesday that it has started selling cannabidiol, or CBD, products in select states. The pharmacy chain said the products include topicals such as creams, sprays, roll-ons, lotions and salves.

White House slams 'Medicare for All' as bad for Americans' health and wallets
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f55e5d72f26dab4b7657b0d32c6c5c7c8e81b44af7b62e9adde762b68304d7b11212c4b7641dd022c&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=stgf7O_3xNKOykYiUcZ7vTsEZHoFYsb0usjj4l82F5o&e=>>
Tami Luhby, CNN

The Trump administration slammed "Medicare for All" in its annual economic review Tuesday, claiming that creating a new government-run health care program would be expensive, damage the economy and hurt Americans' health. President Donald Trump and his top health officials have repeatedly blasted Medicare for All, which several Democratic presidential candidates and lawmakers are backing.

How Rhode Island's Emergency 911 System Failed Baby Alijah <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f0572ff11c56b012f85c19dcc68c49aa22f6791219bf817a27a7d2c4345384e9fd6e146da0b82b492&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=ulDC9l6HcCRhzLojABnF7ZvghOA3WQTSn4ouuaT9Qh0&e=>>
Lynn Arditi, ProPublica

Rhode Island 911 telecommunicators rarely instruct callers in CPR, doctors and EMS officials say. Better training could save hundreds more cardiac arrest victims per year, experts say.

Medicaid bill advances with work requirements, private insurance carve-out

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f13dbc30bb30451d2fbaf81fa6c95a06e7fc077b69b9d1a2356c66f4b2122902da304d2fb1c3e06c7&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=pHoXXpGo5jE6GUX7qc52s0cQQ15nO0x8mzMlyYhoSvo&e=>
Audrey Dutton, Idaho Statesman

A House panel on Wednesday sent the latest Medicaid expansion bill in the Idaho Legislature on to the House floor, but without a recommendation to pass it. The bill - from Nampa Republican Rep. John Vander Woude - includes controversial provisions, such as a work requirement.

Anti-vaxxers trolled a doctors' office. Here's what scientists learned from the attack.
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f866674ab447010dc15fdadc77bfac5e473eb6245bc0a617466c7a73858c3cff4c0aaab4db35ed3fa&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=TTPFq5spl5zRLJQjWwbWzbs671Y4lGOxPqsZU8j6oWc&e=>
Lena H. Sun, The Washington Post

School was about to start. Doctors at a Pennsylvania pediatric practice wanted to remind parents to get their children vaccinated against human papillomavirus, or HPV, which can cause a variety of cancers. The doctors produced a 90-second video and posted it to the practice's Facebook page.

Bonds Rally, Dollar Rebounds as Fed Spurs Caution: Markets Wrap <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fb1de26bba5811a77cda130c34429848ccb2323e10a7fd1e84d52f7c3ffb1fc2353e62f1edc0ef6b6&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=9p4bE_JiyiCwpJ5UR873cXjpPCZHI3-LzrfI2alyNsY&e=>
Samuel Potter, Bloomberg

Government bond yields retreated while U.S. equity futures and European stocks fell on Thursday as investors digested a dovish lurch by policy makers in the world's largest economy. The dollar rebounded after Wednesday's loss.

Payers

Whistleblower accuses HCA of inflated rehab hospital billing <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f8eb55ce409e7bb48cf84f00538e1e4e0c41d9aeb4b7c952ac2aefb56372211df53689945cba99c32&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=_MoUNYX_Phj9b06Hzf_onzshiYGBNgcmJy_kg2mEtrM&e=>
Alex Kacik, Modern Healthcare

Investor-owned hospital chain HCA is facing a whistleblower lawsuit accusing it of cheating the federal government out of millions of dollars through inflated or fraudulent billing through its rehabilitation hospitals.

Providers

California revives bill to cap dialysis pay <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f8eb55ce409e7bb48cf84f00538e1e4e0c41d9aeb4b7c952ac2aefb56372211df53689945cba99c32&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=_MoUNYX_Phj9b06Hzf_onzshiYGBNgcmJy_kg2mEtrM&e=>

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Susannah Luthi, Modern Healthcare

The California Legislature has revived an insurer-backed bill to cap dialysis pay at Medicare rates if industry-backed third parties have helped a patient pay for the insurance to fund treatment and don't give certain disclosures. The new momentum has picked up less than a year after then-Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed a similar measure amid intense opposition from the dialysis industry.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

America's Best Weapon in the Opioid Epidemic Just Got Cheaper <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f811298dabcfbc0a6d43055bfb46335874b9eb95856b1a9e7a5a9ea6a253675ba12231a2ac4184489&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=3TKFeeCDNJbnzz9ddQS1zWVHlzNfgYDZ4xxPyiC9mhs&e=>>
Ari Altstedter, Bloomberg

One of the most popular and effective treatments used to fight the U.S. opioid epidemic is about to get much cheaper. Based in Hyderabad, a rambling boomtown in south India, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd. is a major supplier of generic drugs used by Americans for everything from infections to cardiovascular ailments.

Former DEA official now working for OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f99b5aea643120eaed8093b8e7017777fe830b974bb54eb9a188781844942769e31be5984cf47748d&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=1QIWGiNXCKx7UXR081hxLaKE8mdXbhH9AG1Q7T4LTE0&e=>>
Laura Strickler, NBC News

A former senior U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration official who testified before Congress on the government's efforts to stop the opioid epidemic is now paid to advise one of the largest opioid manufacturers in the country, Purdue Pharma, according to people familiar with the matter.

US experts: Medicines for opioid addiction vastly underused <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9fb944d432278163e36f64afd43024d727dc979ad8de127d97f988be780da4208a0281eb5ff4a3ca55&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=nvRz-ojAYFFK2KlVlhP69BKsp87AKFHTU2fnCH6Fg2I&e=>>
Matthew Perrone, The Associated Press

Medicines proven to treat opioid addiction remain vastly underused in the U.S., the nation's top medical advisers said Wednesday. Only a fraction of the estimated 2 million people addicted to opioids are getting the medications, according to a report by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

Mystery solved: the pharma-backed group with a lot to say on Trump's pitch to end drug rebates

<[RetireSafe, a Washington-based advocacy group with ties to the drug industry, appears to be behind a deluge of comments on HHS' controversial proposal to end the current system of rebates used to negotiate the price of drugs. Roughly 18,000 comments have been submitted about the proposal, a number that far exceeds the normal submission rate for recent Trump administration drug pricing proposals.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f6b83ff7409de1980d28feb2b190d348f0fde9e30f2340abb0cc9610f8697ce23d1c150c9818da4c8&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=0o2N9S2bH7aRXpL_-RfNiLNsZ6CTUAnNiOtOh4RhXBQ&e=>
Nicholas Florko, Stat News</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Roche sues U.S. executives in fight over diabetes test strips <[Roche is seeking tens of millions of dollars in damages and compensation in a U.S. lawsuit against former executives of a Utah-based company, the Swiss drugmaker's latest case targeting what it calls fraudulent schemes involving its diabetes test strips.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D14199ddd57a4de9f14eb5356ee486207bfde15668c3aa2f1f58f94da16c17fb01a1b5535092d395be71c11d800b2978&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=IPIDbRpPd1UGjRqFvTz-cnHyML_3e8asTMz8t_KtRjw&e=>
John Miller, Reuters</p></div><div data-bbox=)

The next big idea for states to take on drug prices <[Several states are considering new "affordability boards" to rein in prescription drug prices. They're hoping that approach would avoid the legal pitfalls that tripped up earlier state-based policies.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63bb51dbb55a25d92ba905e3a23a578b0390be386bb30a770a546583697368cf2523ab0e0ac433f9445&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=6qcP9pml6pwULnchTzAs4KqnlYW04rVit0vmAfHJ0Zo&e=>
Caitlin Owens, Axios</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Some ADHD medicines may increase psychosis more than others, 'real-world' data show <[Adolescents and young adults being treated for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder may be at a higher risk of having a psychotic event if they are provided amphetamine medicines, such as Adderall and Vyvanse, instead of medications based on the compound methylphenidate, such as Ritalin or Concerta, according to a study published Wednesday.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63be8da95379e3a8bf7f05babeac269907b31c01db74ae47c7211d4c6e2dba0ef559810d714d0602909&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=BF-6gmubPjQHebKy9aLXvx50vwzdkT0972do4A-gGs&e=>
Matthew Herper, Stat News</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Health IT

Why Is it So Hard to Match Patients With Their Medical Records? <[Morning Consult Health_ Biogen and
Eisai Suspend Clinical Trials of](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63be8da95379e3a8bf7f05babeac269907b31c01db74ae47c7211d4c6e2dba0ef559810d714d0602909&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=BF-6gmubPjQHebKy9aLXvx50vwzdkT0972do4A-gGs&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

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Lola Butcher, Undark

Patient-matching bedevils every hospital and doctor's office, wasting money and risking patient safety. Experts want to get a handle on the problem.

Devicemaker data breach exposes 277K patients' information <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b371b4eb6c3d1b0e25147f130ddda62692b3eda8c51d74374008f100ae3ad84c575bdb4fb94c5ec71&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=AmULMyaH--nPDYmVOEic2ILSToxxi4VdLHkRMDz82s&e=>>
Robert King, Modern Healthcare

Zoll Medical reported that the personal information of 277,319 patients was exposed during a recent server migration. The medical-device and software maker said in a release on Monday that a third-party service archives Zoll's e-mails.

FDA made a creepy Xbox game to warn teens about the dangers of smoking
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b3aec6b0b585b46d48df9fba898b3b3eb5d5cb536bc54511cf74d4cd444371b582cfef90c3c438b5&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=cBepmZsh_ijwjjuffP8YCPfaUePEMqJrrJteuFd1-HY&e=>>
Shelby Brown, CNET

The Food and Drug Administration is changing how it's tackling tobacco use among teenagers. One Leaves is a free horror game for Xbox and PC designed to educate teens about smoking dangers.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

For Oncologists, Trump's Medicare Part B Plan Makes Treating Cancer Harder
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b41258232be30eadb7dbeedbe4b1549c0c944a53b0c9b7c0fe2cc6143f1c288abdbdfce009e0028ba&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=8NfpArYGnc7-9kbG11hqX5TtqgB_e8CREgzLXKOvMtA&e=>>
Lucy Langer, Morning Consult

As a physician and community oncologist, drug costs are something my patients ask me about regularly. Seeing patients pay high prices for drugs and services covered under Medicare Part B is something that should give all providers and medical practitioners heartache, particularly when it involves treatments like chemotherapy and other potentially life-saving cancer therapies.

The future of e-cigarettes depends on the industry's willingness to protect teens
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b5aed9edca14117f20f30e6df73f9a8f3b6843bab1bb5c97c7d6f91f0f52920296d456c4734b72c73&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C->

QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=5NhuP5K6LKlAD9iBwD9EPiNt1C6ZUNSSTwel49oDuYc&e=>
Alex M. Azar and Scott Gottlieb, The Washington Post

The e-cigarette craze among teenagers has become an epidemic. We agree with those who believe that e-cigarettes may offer a lower-risk alternative for adult smokers who still want access to nicotine. But the continued availability of this opportunity to adults is being endangered by the e-cigarette industry's slowness to address the dangers its products pose to teens.

I hear you???-???and I want to get my bill on opioids right. <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b29d035ca80ac4b1e6ef6f655265014b74c2e97c970777a91c8bfdab03dee98f0ba631e5811bd5e0f&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=eOT5BSDrmXyMOVW2_oFlgEwWkKHHJEdTDaJsXdixfdE&e=>
Kirsten Gillibrand, Medium

Recently, I tweeted about my bill that would limit the prescription of opioids for acute pain???-???things like wisdom teeth removals or broken bones???-???to seven days for an initial prescription. Based on some of the reactions I received, I want to clarify the intent of the bill, and emphasize some important exemptions included in it.

Research Reports

Available Data Show Privately-Insured Patients Are at Financial Risk
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b06192d1df985c15a3546eafcc401a6ff5f1662918ac08d562f924c3f7db06e0fbb2b4212d7aba36a&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=qMQooVPDhFCzSyXrHvhKs62yhMttr1IOUCYo_d_p4C8&e=>
Government Accountability Office

Privately-insured patients transported by air ambulance providers outside of their insurers' provider networks are at financial risk for balance bills-which, as the figure shows, are for the difference between prices charged by providers and payments by insurers. Any balance bills are in addition to copayments or other types of cost-sharing typically paid by patients under their insurance coverage.

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D8033b2917232d63b1527d3bd6ec7109e9e36e5ca5fbc7dd68b18a3414cb3a3bc0c1ca97e4d4ed70e5c9cad862b1345b2&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=ihqEUE54Xr_obtHLplkaa3Gy7C-QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=A11VpUFWF6Xa9453UAW9AZPau2f1UWwpKCsZII_4-5U&e=>

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QotLyeK5ggLhZPcc&s=bv30mGjiG1nR52xxBDiOtmRY0laAQep6mEPkd-rH17U&e=>

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Morning Consult Health, Presented by America's 340B Hospitals: Appeals Court Allows House Democrats to Intervene in ACA Lawsuit

From: Morning Consult <reply@e.morningconsult.com>
To: james.f.bridenstine@nasa.gov, Bridenstine, James F. (HQ-AA000) <james.f.bridenstine@nasa.gov>
Sent: February 15, 2019 9:18:11 AM EST
Received: February 15, 2019 9:18:19 AM EST

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By Brian Yermal Jr. <<mailto:byermal@morningconsult.com>>

Morning Consult Health will be off Monday for Presidents Day. Publication of the morning newsletters and afternoon updates will resume the following day.

Top Stories

- The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals will let House Democrats intervene in a case in which a federal judge ruled that the Affordable Care Act is unconstitutional after Congress terminated the law's penalty on consumers who do not have health insurance. The court also declined a request from Democratic attorneys general to expedite the case by holding oral arguments in July. (Politico

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775dfab2c96392d589ef657ce7e4260754720c801695afb46f3f2938f05d6479743ec9a40b24de6d2f3>>)

- President Donald Trump is expected to sign spending legislation during a 10 a.m. event at the White House that would fund federal agencies including the Food and Drug Administration, averting a government shutdown. Trump said he would declare a national emergency to secure additional funding for a U.S.-Mexico border wall, which would allow him to divert money from other government programs, including \$2.5 billion from the Department of Defense drug interdiction program, government officials said. (The Washington Post

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775aebe13eba48bf978a8cb8473d1dd04a14d02f36084534399ff7da92cefbe8f2d9fecab24907b8f22>>)

- Gilead Sciences Inc. is facing a whistleblower lawsuit that alleges the pharmaceutical company provided kickbacks to providers, government agencies and other groups to increase sales of its hepatitis and HIV drugs. The lawsuit by Allen Kuo, which is alleging \$3.4 billion in damages, contends that Gilead's Frontlines of Communities in the United States program paid for doctors' salaries, patient travel to screenings, upgrades to provider medical software and other incentives, which the lawsuit says resulted in unnecessary tests and prescriptions for Gilead's drugs. (Modern Healthcare

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775f3218d64d528d817766e0b174d3680288cbf848a4105f3268e7a899ed2592e1cafd21f109bb1c0b>>)

Chart Review

Potential Effects of Work Requirements in Montana's Medicaid Program

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907756f0bfb1ca0135b4b4d99ce7d958800b3cd40b90ff848b861a95b6ca1ba03f2ef8e1c4e491f9ccf8b>>

George Washington University

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

02/15/2019

Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society Conference 2019

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775c1ad0bcd9b149bc23e884f1f97e35378a23a5d0d4b6bec523185fbef0886f095a3ec11c2f081c730>>

Expert Meeting on Understanding the Effects of Intersectionality on Sexual and Gender Minorities

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907752f4c9d511d30d3dfac9abb52f44968fa074d77c6bae6b593e6a3379efc8b2e990bff9f731ab2e71>>

9:00 am

AEI discussion: If one part of Affordable Care Act is ruled unconstitutional, what is the proper remedy or resolution?

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907758e80b8bec55f2c4a17854824b6cc7c727467388458d2d6ae30694d84428dcd0fbe77e224b2cd0dae>>

12:30 pm

View full calendar

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907756a86a09384ac03ab526a9738e31a3ea63fe87685989186b2cbe01ed2fda48b8b58ddfc0c8529186>>

SPONSORED BY AMERICA'S 340B HOSPITALS

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907750b87c3d8009734ae9306b2e61378f274a660ac0a8d483494aacfc9aeb55c0f45eaf319505f64163d>>

Cut Drug Prices. Not 340B.

At no cost to taxpayers, the 340B program is critical to the health of America's patients because it allows hospitals serving vulnerable communities to address the health care needs of their communities, including providing free or substantially discounted prescriptions to low-income and rural patients, operating free clinics, treating patients with substance use disorders, and sustaining access to other lifesaving services for patients. Weakening this vital program will hurt patients.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907750b87c3d8009734ae9306b2e61378f274a660ac0a8d483494aacfc9aeb55c0f45eaf319505f64163d>>

General

NAFTA 2.0's impact on drug prices is more complicated than some Democrats are implying

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775c422e51a0cc83f140cf19e9093a3b7e21ff4bc23067910b6f75a980614a805f55383de352473a9a6>>Ike Swetlitz, Stat News

Some House Democrats are raising new concerns about a landmark Trump administration trade agreement, implying that it will weaken the bipartisan effort to lower prescription drug prices. But experts tell STAT that the treaty won't actually increase prices or stifle competition in the U.S.

CDC: Flu shot kept about 50% from going to doctor

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907750468fc95ff5f55fc070bcdab52e98bb93b960f8bb39723a9e939074fefcc81a79318175b435393a4>>Nathaniel Weixel, The Hill

This year's flu shot has prevented about half the people vaccinated from getting sick enough to need to go to the doctor, according to new federal data.

Md. considers safe-injection centers to reduce harm of opioid addiction

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907759f831bc1e7569b23b691f2dfb9cac5aa12c298ef567042c2e1300a47b7bb63a57d4b748e48388edf>>

Samantha Hogan and Heather Mongilio, The Frederick News-Post

Samantha Kerr faced her palms upward and silently took a deep breath to calm herself as she waited to testify in front of the Senate Finance Committee on Thursday. When it was her turn, Kerr started by telling lawmakers this was the last place she wanted to be today.

The turncoat lobbyist pushing Medicare for All

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a690775ea0527462305cd91ab1860c6df7d13cc84032b97214f54e9c984a356044140b60f4785c63a17def8a>>Kimberly Leonard, Washington Examiner

Wendell Potter knows all the arguments against a government-financed healthcare system in the U.S., because he used to make them himself when he led communications for the health insurance giant Cigna. A decade later, he is fighting against those same arguments, seeking to expose what he now views as a deeply flawed and inefficient healthcare system.

U.S. Futures Steady as European Stocks, Oil Climb: Markets Wrap

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba7e85d8bb09a3f8988bc50415a15831a33917b9f0c0215bf3fe5cd610ab8495a0172fb2fe98adb230>>Eddie van der Walt, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures edged higher, tracking a rally in European stocks as investors shrugged off lingering doubts about global growth and the outlook for trade to end the week on a positive note. Treasuries held steady and the dollar advanced.

Payers

Medicare to allow ambulances more leeway in where they take patients for care

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba31e0ec3e2ca7f79fb0e39c72a6d32e181075e5b37c14e748b41041415c044fbb3d9a3b4f87dc54c5>>Kimberly Leonard, Washington Examiner

Medicare will start paying ambulances for taking patients to healthcare facilities other than the emergency department under a plan the Trump administration rolled out Thursday.

Payers, providers push back on Democrats' Medicare buy-in plan

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba77815577245e73c446f8d02e8a176a4f0edfaddcebb6a011b7254aa13c8ed620e699024ac393544>>Jacqueline Renfrow, FierceHealthcare

Earlier this week, Democrats introduced a bill that would allow people ages 50 and over to buy in to Medicare coverage, and the plan is already getting pushback from payers and providers. Under the most recent proposal, people between the ages of 50 and 65 could buy a Medicare plan and qualify for subsidies and tax credits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Providers

Hospitals are making a lot of money on outpatient drugs

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba0bfb080bcc5650a4d2d36b6451a6f6c5d82b6599c8339ef6fc25cdf1884371841af16c23f642dde3>>

Bob Herman, Axios

Hospitals are reaping big windfalls from commonly used drugs, marking them up 3-7 times above their average sales prices, according to an analysis by Wall Street firm AllianceBernstein.

DaVita's profits drop as it works to close medical group sale

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbade97750b83b5e4110a0a5d8bf42300f66a9dc048f24372709063fa8514116e5f67a1c0bf6c1cdab9>>Tara Bannow, Modern Healthcare

DaVita's profit took a hit in 2018 as the company works to close on the sale of its medical group to UnitedHealth Group.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

J&J and Novartis back cancer geneticist's immunotherapy start-up

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba22e906f939705d21a22deaa07cb1681ab2f6b1f74025c246884d5e7f5f4edcee10e5e25ba05231fd>>Hannah Kuchler, Financial Times

Siddhartha Mukherjee, the cancer geneticist and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer who is working on a novel way to expand immunotherapies for blood cancers, has raised \$42m for his start-up Vor Biopharma.

Big Pharma's GOP firewall is weakening

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbaf4b0490e5000c867c154e80f8e2dd240bc2c0627f900070916ec3b280a8cbc0b183009ef1235ee36>>Caitlin Owens, Axios

Congressional Republicans are increasingly open to cracking down on the tactics pharmaceutical companies use to keep competition at bay - changes that were once a non-starter for the GOP.

23andMe is upending how we find new drugs, and the CEO says 13 are now in early trials

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba0501ce2bd94588cfce0c374a64ff1c9265d0facd1f8bc0aa3337659df69503305c8bb0dae66915fd>>Erin Brodwin, Business Insider

Could 23andMe-branded drugs one day grace the shelves of your medicine cabinet? Anne Wojcicki, the cofounder and CEO of the Silicon Valley genetic testing startup, said it would be a "source of pride" if that happened.

Former CEO said he was made the 'fall guy' for opioid maker Insys

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba3978a74f92815852a3dbdadccc5cea27978d8298132418792c067927a913a0b0fa9666d27b3cc62f>>Maria Cramer, Boston Globe

In the summer of 2015, Michael Babich noticed a marked change in his relationship with John Kapoor, the man who had mentored him and made him CEO of his opioid manufacturing company. Kapoor, the founder of Insys Therapeutics, used to call him six or seven times a day, Babich testified in federal court Thursday, but now was only calling occasionally.

Health IT

They've Taken America's Temperature - and It's Running High

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba416ed642fd5a38825d493e26bc4fcfa4fa217c037fcc90add4616a04737dd0a020e7ee27bd6f9de2>>Donald G. McNeil Jr., The New York Times

Americans are suffering through a very bad cold season - but not a terrible flu season, which would be far more threatening, according to the makers of a smart thermometer that accurately tracked last year's highly lethal flu season.

He went hunting for gold-standard research on artificial intelligence in medicine - and didn't find much
<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba997258f35306c99e603e604060754028b6c514468db555694c420eb99333e0d135cc72ff417d5f94>>Rebecca Robbins et al., Stat News

By now everyone's heard about the potential of artificial intelligence in medicine to revolutionize things like interpreting medical data and predicting patient outcomes. And everyone's probably heard plenty, too, about how much hype is out there about what these algorithms can actually do.

Glimpsing The Future At Gargantuan Health Tech Showcase
<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba97aa1e5c74d39c57df5b8cadfa799129291b651267a56d8ba50f32f58dad25f25c71cd9628d536e0>>Phil Galewitz, Kaiser Health News

Imagine going to the doctor and finding out before you leave the exam room how much your prescribed drug will cost, avoiding sticker shock at the pharmacy. Or what if you could wear a tiny device at the top of your back that would gently nudge you to sit up straight whenever you slump.

Health tech is so old-fashioned that Google had to adapt its cloud service to work with fax machines
<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbad270836a5ef7d495b91901d71e6a4279b0f85abe19c037c50fe359080884c090c775113b62b12551>>Christina Farr, CNBC

Last year at the HIMSS health care conference, former Google CEO and chairman Eric Schmidt noted that health care is still in the "stone age," and is reliant on fax machines and pagers. This week, at the same conference in Orlando, Google seems to have acknowledged that the medical world's stone age technology is here to stay for the foreseeable future.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Economic Analysis Falls Short When It Comes to Medicines' Value
<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba68113abda80ce2e764f9581c867f806a476952ce4f43f259c86e82a58619f576670f644148dc4c23>>Robert Popovian, Morning Consult

For the past two decades, a plethora of organizations identified by various innocuous acronyms (e.g., NICE - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) has tried to convince policymakers, providers and patients among others that economic analysis or modeling ought to be used to determine drug coverage decisions. They have tried to define value and insert value as a component into models so that they may analyze the appropriateness of payment for a pharmaceutical.

Americans have the right to know their health care and hospital costs
<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccbae5db4cc316aae256afddf8dbbcecc7af7a2e0bc88a8301ee419dfa1bd187dd6ea17f13bf13e1bd92d>>Seema Verma, Stat News

Americans are prolific shoppers, constantly on the lookout for the best price for top-quality products and services. If you are searching for a new television, it's easy to find prices and statistics transparently and prominently displayed at just about every store.

Will Republicans Start Winning on Health Care?

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba4fbec460f1f29a6a5d1cbc93ffc8be5d0edc39b12f2fe6688835a836e246dc85c8edaaf330fe6acf>>James Freeman, The Wall Street Journal

Prices of health care products and services have been rising very slowly in the Trump era. Meanwhile the President's opponents are embracing increasingly radical plans for the sector.

A Message from America's 340B Hospitals:

At no cost to taxpayers, the 340B program is critical to the health of America's patients because it allows hospitals serving vulnerable communities to address the health care needs of their communities, including providing free or substantially discounted prescriptions to low-income and rural patients, operating free clinics, treating patients with substance use disorders, and sustaining access to other lifesaving services for patients. Weakening this vital program will hurt patients.

Research Reports

Potential Effects of Work Requirements in Montana's Medicaid Program

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=424d13596a6907756f0bfb1ca0135b4b4d99ce7d958800b3cd40b90ff848b861a95b6ca1ba03f2ef8e1c4e491f9ccf8b>>Leighton Ku and Erin Brantley, Milken Institute School of Public Health and George Washington University

In 2016, Montana expanded its Medicaid program under the Health and Economic Livelihood Partnership (HELP) Act. Legislators are considering a bill, the Medicaid Reform and Integrity Act (MeRIA), to impose work requirements ("community engagement") and terminate Medicaid insurance coverage if beneficiaries work less than 20 hours a week for three or more months. This analysis is based on a draft of the bill dated February 5, 2019.

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=7c757ced259fccba629f603e7390507c3a85ab5c4866111a55d83091d94abf9a55e9b2622d9adad19aba1974d7ebaaaa>>

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Morning Consult Health: Kaiser Permanente to Waive Tuition for First 5 Classes of New Medical School

From: Morning Consult <reply@e.morningconsult.com>
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By Brian Yermal Jr. <mailto:byermal@morningconsult.com>

Top Stories

- Kaiser Permanente plans to waive tuition for all of its students in the first five graduating classes of its new medical school set to open in Pasadena, Calif., in 2020, joining the New York University School of Medicine in providing a tuition-free medical education to attract prospective students who might avoid medical school due to the cost. While neither school will cover room and board, Kaiser will offer its students health coverage through its insurance system. (The New York Times

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab948f7226317ea632b18a84af738655c32f2dad4c8e43518f71d3827cfc7cb8b65aab3f77c4437af0ce>>)

- Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) announced his plans to run for president in the 2020 election, with an agenda that includes a "Medicare for all" health care system, just like his 2016 presidential platform. Sanders has introduced "Medicare for all" legislation that would provide health coverage for every American through a government plan and would eliminate private insurance. (The Washington Post

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f1fcfb8b346c514ad7ec8bc28c07ba97c4f869accf9f8a88d37e3a1b655a2a77c093b767a9c5893e>>)

- Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) threw his support behind a Medicare buy-in proposal that would expand the federal program to people age 50 and older, saying it's a plan that would "help people now" and improve the Affordable Care Act. Brown, who is considered a possible 2020 presidential candidate, said "Medicare for all," which has been promoted by other Democratic lawmakers and presidential candidates, would be "difficult" and "take a while" to implement. (The Hill

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab941762e6b8341d059a2cb5b71d9eb57b1ad227a762c0796f8e724212a2d390bbcedd4b227d8aace61b>>)

Chart Review

Utilization and Spending Trends in Medicaid Outpatient Prescription Drugs

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab940924427ba7c600569aa3003ea7554e5d08f8e27a53fcbf04fa62d020b03f90bd528b6b557261d1c5>>

Kaiser Family Foundation

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

02/20/2019

CVS Health Corp. fourth-quarter 2018 earnings call

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab941686aaff9943e8bfe9909ed767f005e6ecc5f41938bd14a61e9416a9424e8cf121df1dafb1d7ed8f>>

8:30 am

Brookings panel on "Emerging policy solutions to surprise medical bills"

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab943aa0d3c9b3604192deb93f77f025d33413ba982ad85359b27fb0c72242c581561ec821a3087be7f5>>

9:30 am

02/21/2019

AEI event featuring Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller discussing cigarette regulation, teens and trade-offs

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94c4ec6d273189107d8193b0eb8fd45f740c04695e87dd1587f330d08ab42397d7f5e742e2aee46e0a>>

2:00 pm

02/22/2019

Johns Hopkins Guest Lecture: Homer Venters to Discuss the Health Risks of Incarceration

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94d75b76f890b178347aa5162cebf8d327c786dcb52bcc4263f52c6276305f66ddc78be81c24e41526>>

12:00 pm

View full calendar

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The State of the Democratic Primary

On a daily basis, Morning Consult is surveying over 5,000 registered voters across the United States on the 2020 presidential election. Each week, we'll update this page with the latest survey data, offering an in-depth guide to how the race for the Democratic nomination is shaping up.

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General

Voter Initiatives, Including Medicaid Expansion, Could Get Harder to Pass

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab949d53176f7a35fb2ed586e7e7bdaae000132c5f1d66fac598661fe316705a3570ec724e7eb56e7c24>> Stephanie Armour, The Wall Street Journal

Some Republican lawmakers are moving to curtail future state voter initiatives, posing a possible obstacle to

supporters of Medicaid expansion, who are already locked in a bitter fight to preserve initiatives passed in the November midterm elections.

High stakes as Trump, Dems open drug price talks

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Democrats and the Trump administration are beginning to hold talks on lowering drug prices as they look for a rare area of common ground. Both President Trump and congressional Democrats say that lowering drug prices is a priority, providing a potential area for bipartisan action in a government that is otherwise bitterly divided after a months-long fight over border security.

For 2020 Dem Hopefuls, 'Medicare-For-All' Is A Defining Issue, However They Define It

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab941d727939ef0c1f466dc05f5cef284b1248cc28bc976121bcae1639345e7b4e8e7dcd3a292c03ef0f>>Shefali Luthra, Kaiser Health News

Democrats with 2020 presidential aspirations are courting the party's increasingly influential progressive wing and staking out ambitious policy platforms. Front and center are three words: Medicare. For. All.

Kamala Harris Faces Questions About 'Democratic Socialist' Label and Jussie Smollett in N.H. Debut

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94eba1a1d409107b5115bb0049cc16fc11c0b6b4a8752e6ef6cf63592d2a50b715f7b4b234b39d5de6>>Katharine Q. Seelye, The New York Times

Senator Kamala Harris visited New Hampshire on Monday for the first time in her life, and quickly experienced the realities of being a presidential candidate: She faced questions from national reporters about her political ideology and her description of the alleged assault on the actor Jussie Smollett as "an attempted modern day lynching," followed by a town-hall-style forum with a big crowd of more than 1,000 voters.

New Justice Dept. policies, new AG may mute False Claims Act whistleblowers

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Healthcare industry groups have always hated False Claims Act whistleblower lawsuits. These cases involve private individuals-usually knowledgeable insiders-accusing companies and individuals of defrauding federal programs in the hope of righting a wrong and collecting a share of the bounty for their work.

Name and shame: HHS using disclosure, transparency to try to force change

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To get healthcare's powerful players to behave as desired, HHS and its various units are increasingly turning to the same playbook: naming and shaming bad actors.

U.S. Futures, Europe Stocks Retreat; Dollar Rises: Markets Wrap

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94eef13a3bd1b83d76da7000fd01e27099ed6b1e36be009eea625d27c74d2dd934bc4f36a6841673c>>Eddie van der Walt, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures fell and European stocks dropped as investors awaited fresh clues on the outlook for global trade and growth. The dollar strengthened and Treasuries were steady.

Payers

In Arkansas, Thousands Of People Have Lost Medicaid Coverage Over New Work Rule

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f848dd7b77a70ac8d709c3a995f481fa50fbcd1411a35e28684d2d806f54ea503c20e565cfcb5906>>

NPR News

Grisel Sustache Flores takes a seat at a health clinic in Springdale, Ark., for low-income patients. The 46-year old Puerto Rico native says she learned last fall that she qualified for Medicaid, which Arkansas expanded under the Affordable Care Act to cover more adults.

Bill seeks to expand health insurance coverage for working poor

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab945bc2596317d57d20eeb1f876e39cbc3fe50ddfff0d8fcbaac33c34df0f109e40f80ac28b612cde91>>

Barbara Hoberock, Tulsa World

A Senate panel passed a measure Monday aimed at reducing the number of Oklahomans without health insurance.

Insurer Accused Of Selling Fake Comprehensive Health Plans; 'One Of The Most Egregious I've Seen'

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab9462f06a70e89fa4c26ef34da9b7f81ba43a55195719537c8eba421ff35bf934427ea7f6f3d8a1e91d>>CBS Miami

A South Florida man is accused of selling cut-rate insurance policies to more than ten thousand people across the country who believed they were buying comprehensive health coverage.

Providers

Hit by a city bus - and hit with a \$27,660 city hospital bill

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f98dadf1b9ba4f23af0fdafc882b4b2e177fbbb8f1d7ed563677d8efb51989be212811f9cbc5b405>>Sarah Kliff, Vox

On July 9, 2016, Justin Zanders, 19, was walking down a San Francisco sidewalk when a pole hanging off the back of a public bus hit him in the face. A video shows the blow knocking Zanders to the ground, rendering him unconscious.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

As McKinsey Sells Advice, Its Hedge Fund May Have a Stake in the Outcome

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The sins of Valeant Pharmaceuticals are well known. Instead of spending to develop new drugs, Valeant bought out other drugmakers, then increased prices of lifesaving medicines by as much as 5,785 percent. Patients had no choice but to pay.

Blockbuster drugs are stacking up orphan approvals

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Some of the best-selling drugs in the U.S. have stacked up extra federal protections that were initially intended to spark research into drugs that couldn't make money on their own.

Here's how prosecutors say generic drug makers schemed to fix prices

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94da4cd5e90ce6ed72e914af9deae91548878b46ef4d0a86aa2d7db0b57009b3d073aab948f0183c5d>>Ed Silverman, Stat News

In one case, an executive at a pharmaceutical company had an employee email a competitor to discuss strategy. In another, a drug maker allegedly struck a bargain with another so that each company could maintain its respective market share.

Stealth player is poised to win a CRISPR patent that could speed the development of therapies

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The usual suspects have done a fine job of turning the CRISPR patent landscape into a minefield for companies trying to figure out what intellectual property they need to make their hoped-for therapies, but an unusual suspect is about to mix things up even more.

Health IT

PsyberGuide seeks to provide unbiased reviews of mental health apps, digital tools

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab9451201880feaf729d4eaadb60ca7828416807d8385091d03d8e293da225d088be15385d47e5c60ccc>>Erin Blakemore, The New York Times

If you're struggling with anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder or depression, an app might help. But should you invest in a therapy app or one that only tracks symptoms?

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

FDA Says 'Aye Aye' to AI

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When it comes to regulatory science and the broader issues facing the Food and Drug Administration, there will always be significant gradations of nuance and ambiguity. "Predictability" is a trail that regulators and regulated must blaze together - sometimes heroically and at other times with greater caution.

How Much Will Americans Sacrifice for Good Health Care?

<<https://click.e.morningconsult.com/?qs=3062aadc461fab94f94497da07603d273256e05f01296ff9f9928bd1b8792833c58d112b3cf1d13a3d005417cc000d1a>>The Editorial Board, The New York Times

It's been nearly 10 years since the passage of the Affordable Care Act - one of the most sweeping health care overhauls in the nation's history. The law has brought the number of uninsured people in America to an all-time low, secured protections for people with pre-existing conditions and advanced the notion that health care is a human right.

Research Reports

Medicare Consumer Survey

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eHealth

This report presents findings from a survey of Medicare enrollees who purchased Medicare Advantage, Medicare Part D, or Medicare Supplement plans through websites operated by eHealth, Inc., including eHealthMedicare.com,

GoMedigap.com, and Medicare.com (a nongovernment website). The survey was conducted on voluntary basis in January and February of 2019 and a total of 2,021 responses were collected.

Today's consumers reveal the future of healthcare

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The Accenture 2019 Digital Health Consumer Survey reveals a market shift in the United States. Healthcare consumers today are changing, and their expectations for convenience, affordability and quality are redefining how they engage at each stage of care.

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Morning Consult Health: CMS Releases New Tools for States Looking to Customize Medicaid Programs

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By Yusra Murad <<mailto:ymurad@morningconsult.com>>

Top Stories

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is offering new strategies to help states use federal waivers to customize their Medicaid programs, with changes such as imposing work requirements or the elimination of retrospective Medicaid eligibility. The tools include templates for implementation and monitoring of changes as well as guidance on evaluation procedures to help states draw a link between work requirements and employment among the population. (Modern Healthcare <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a02901e6cad507562ba61b582d91e8d458e4c3745a5d00675babdbff0efdf3b9bfd7cd95281640dc8f0159c1f17bbcb&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=w9IYWEMwuuxQ1ZPxZCYwpULJ_gwX7x8gsNW1xT9qk4&e=>>
- U.S District Judge James Boasberg will issue a ruling on the Trump administration's approval of Medicaid work requirements in Arkansas and Kentucky by April 1, a decision which could have wide-ranging implications for the other states hoping to impose work rules on some Medicaid beneficiaries. During the hearings, Boasberg - who previously halted the implementation of requirements in Kentucky - focused on whether work requirements help to achieve the purpose of Medicaid. (Kaiser Health News <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a02901e6cad5075a54e3711e23b865bc6e4c9e46562c1b51f9d2852a03f5c0a1bccbb4da9cd404671e24098a1ab4db&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=k87Bt9i9Oy2uMCK_-RWb-vvKpyAVSQtp5Iz38xS5emA&e=>>
- American teenagers and young adults between the ages of 14 and 27 years old - also known as Generation Z - are more prone to emotional distress, suicide and major depression than the millennial generation was at the same age, according to a new study. In 2017, approximately 13 percent of Americans 12 to 25 years old expressed symptoms within the past year of an episode of major depression - a surge of 62 percent in eight years - with suicide rates among young adults ages 18 to 25 rising by up to 56 percent between 2008 and 2017. (Los Angeles Times <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a02901e6cad507532cd9872cd4227bafba0eb4e58187f43a00633bc76f001a54a0fcf53b35be064e36dc44e63b2f7e&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=k87Bt9i9Oy2uMCK_-RWb-vvKpyAVSQtp5Iz38xS5emA&e=>>

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Chart Review

Where 2020 Democrats stand on Medicare-for-all <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a02901e6cad5075ec30eafb695dc9ecbb9abb1c5ffd00abe492d94049960f574ab30160fbb9c4f53f9d399282a6cb17&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=HRR9SGkXUqyM71XF74D24ua1RDc5t8Cpe71v33Hw_7Q&e=>>
The Washington Post

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

03/15/2019

20th Annual Emerging Issues in Healthcare Law Conference <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a02901e6cad507554030fa91accd54ad1fb1a8fe6162e9add799ec65716df178b1a3c1f4d9174bbe929fd1495ad2363&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=29mIZDMm5Pj_Bu0NrcysCuF9gnJ5-_fAdigZ9dR6ppl&e=>>

AHIP's National Conference On The Individual And Small Group Markets
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072f43b0da32a4ca0067422eec5c83993f66dc5ad37c6c5603e888c05a11231b1dde9bf5a29c5236df1&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=weq2F1vthWpiJq5ck_s94cALJUL8kewFtYnEIVw0izU&e=>>

National Coalition on Health Care congressional briefing on arbitration to address high drug prices
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072d73327f607d100f55766c7a1f00c327b81a29bfa3986eb5c2e97ec9139914e66ba4ca5fe62df0b3b&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=toFhHwTHlul9xiK1rjkdsfNJCzu0SnD4o-PiKNaRcnU&e=>>

11:00 am

Harvard Law event: Medicaid Buy-In and State Trailblazing in Health Care
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072c1f1599b33264bbb57200bbe3c45e73b64227aa264c26e1f1967283fa40a9e0e081e83d2d51abd5a&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=rtdy0LhW4xUI6qOYEusOfpTYyg_QO0sKpQd9G8LUKQ8&e=>>

12:00 pm

03/16/2019

American College of Cardiology 68th Annual Scientific Session and Expo

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072038974dd53f9cbda339da89daa862b4e00fb5dffa5b2816be86be0759dad721acfb4e49a6837aa5d&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=JFfZZaAzsrYx_dunc2B6CaAh2xcmlTj9z0e_aP9lwEk&e=>

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03/17/2019

American College of Cardiology 68th Annual Scientific Session and Expo
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03/18/2019

American College of Cardiology 68th Annual Scientific Session and Expo
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2019 State Healthcare IT Connect Summit <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072037a84d211fa7964682306d7b9b89b744b5f82b003af8e90c1473696ffeab32a5a31d4b8b7a27dce&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=ywNT8k--jo-TutoGFWETL-Ouw2WUZ9yYxfDFmJRZl3Y&e=>

03/19/2019

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03/20/2019

2019 State Healthcare IT Connect Summit <[https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072037a84d211fa7964682306d7b9b89b744b5f82b003af8e90c1473696ffeab32a5a31d4b8b7a27dce&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=ywNT8k--jo-TutoGFWETL-Ouw2WUZ9yYxfDFmJRZl3Y&e=>)

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03/21/2019

Financial Times Digital Surgery Summit <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072970f8299c90a34acc20b764343626c383a42c76f1af1366f7e7618d426d5d7015cdd54ceaf7389e5&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=X9HtP7KZ7G5__sKIXelp651MbZJc-U1FRgTR2rEsMGk&e=>

The Atlantic Innovators Lab: San Diego <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a072194fa6888f6165d1c8ca68adf85efea1e858b095424e36483b3e96cb584a9d7702d1b1af067141d6&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=eAu-BOIOTWrfWrec6zGpw_Gu3AriYBHT7O6H7Ei7m8g&e=>

Dialogue About the Workforce for Population Health Improvement: A Workshop
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8:00 am

03/22/2019

Brookings Institution: Emerging policy solutions to surprise medical bills
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9:30 am

View full calendar <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dcb2de4d038e4a0723ccde92490d066d515ff00831ca70647e6cbcb3495e1b5cde80a40b96eef971f00bdbac3f137b65&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=coaQhnrng0DU5F0EDsRFwQIIhT2Rk-WmeA22fL_cgJoE&e=>

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wnRkx7yxSfbGZ1hFglPem7peDFWWterpGWOR8&e=>

The State of the Democratic Primary

On a daily basis, Morning Consult is surveying over 5,000 registered voters across the United States on the 2020 presidential election. Each week, we'll update this page with the latest survey data, offering an in-depth guide to how the race for the Democratic nomination is shaping up.

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2a454035006ba82993f5a99435859263860e76dab661b9bf7b5e823a21e71f27eef6c82facead5f5d&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=58f_--wnRkx7yxSfbGZ1hFglPem7peDFWWterpGWOR8&e=>

General

Trump Administration Cuts The Size Of Fines For Health Violations In Nursing Homes

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2c28752dc2c8693a7e8522e08fef70bd14a5523d76ae6d16d17b4827bf2b45e04b76c65ac4302761c&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=qVpxmXCbLHkexvq81xROJaf73kdL-oH8BGeAz2mPaTc&e=>

Jordan Rau, NPR News

The Trump administration's decision to alter the way it punishes nursing homes has resulted in lower fines against many facilities found to have endangered or injured residents. Federal records show that the average fine dropped to \$28,405 under the current administration, down from \$41,260 in 2016, President Obama's final year in office.

Trump administration seeks to build global coalition against abortion rights

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2f9f73fc6acf0a84ed7c426a3e1653490eb7542d82aaf2776e0dcfe04f4a8d79b95e3607651a36cbd&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=u7ZAIvV4bj9BzNZtJmLle3iXxfEbrE5Pr9d6LoFZzdY&e=>

Ariana Eunjung Cha and Lena H. Sun, The Washington Post

Valerie Huber, a top Health and Human Services Department official, was the special guest at a New York City event on Tuesday that included representatives of dozens of nations in town for a key women's rights conference at the United Nations.

Trump pledges support for health programs but his budget takes 'legs out from underneath the system'

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2ed8321d72096e59622aa10d29acb91c5952d964e275678095a4c9050835382f6ec75d6e419cbae93&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=A4xJey5Mlnc8OfO5UAod8ydfiGC6iESe5xWDpVwKVI4&e=>

Amy Goldstein et al., The Washington Post

As President Trump stood before a joint session of Congress for his State of the Union address in February, he urged Republicans and Democrats alike to support the audacious goal of stopping the spread of HIV within a decade. "Together, we will defeat AIDS in America and beyond," he declared.

Tobacco, E-Cigarette Lobbyists Circle as F.D.A. Chief Exits <[Dr. Scott Gottlieb became commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration in 2017 with an ambitious plan to reduce cigarette smoking, a habit that kills nearly half a million Americans each year, by shifting smokers to less harmful alternatives like e-cigarettes. But he was quickly embroiled in an unexpected crisis: the explosion of vaping among millions of middle and high school students, many of whom were getting addicted to nicotine.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa28e88904a2cd8fd376c57534e89a340838f45643f8d9e83109134cece9478fbd066c8d4f0dcb74a4f&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=jX0sKNx96O--y0-dJU3yor9FtztK1fSk4VXjFoKVxDQ&e=>>
Sheila Kaplan and Matt Richtel, The New York Times</p></div><div data-bbox=)

U.S. hopes to send more experts to Congo as Ebola outbreak rages <[The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention hopes to send experts to Congo in the next few weeks to train international and local personnel in the fight against a raging Ebola outbreak that has killed nearly 600 people and is far from under control, the CDC director said Thursday in an interview.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2e315ee8a6626f0bcc67f44b542f6f922396a64253d43a21f655c2817c780c8d3c863513ffdb4fc0d&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=by2LxGPuT7YuhDUikbCYiw4Dd-JigdRxRgqP8dvrpl&e=>>
Lena Sun, The Washington Post</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Maryland attempts to boost kidney donations <[Maryland state legislators are looking to help people desperate for kidney transplants by enacting new protections for donors. The "Organ Donation - Prohibition on Discrimination by Insurer and Unpaid Leave Bill" would prevent life and disability insurers from denying or canceling living organ donors' policies on the basis of health as a result. The bill also stipulates that living organ donors must receive up to 60 business days in unpaid leave.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2687b14aed48b38a9836303194e1f8f784bfedc6f0b606f85f67e9848f3dfd222d38dd9719e876377&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=05fRe_NTJdhZVdmTuw3Lpsl_MyNqKb8amimmJgUqkeE&e=>>
Cassidy Morrison, Washington Examiner</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Ralph Northam's medical school won diversity award amid racist photo scandal
<[A Virginia medical school kept silent about winning a national award for fostering diversity while a controversy over racist photos found on Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam's yearbook page played out last month. The National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education chose Eastern Virginia Medical School for an award given to one school each year that has made great strides in promoting diversity.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa25fdc5265c9e3235b9f06dd1a826594ad5bcf5c487cbd325a3dce044ad3c94c662d4f252fc52e30a2&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=HoD0cB2q09ssk9QOZXSBeKqQNTCoizBf7UxOw6h6N9k&e=>>
Zachary Halaschak, Washington Examiner</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Stocks Ending Week on Solid Footing; Dollar Steady: Markets Wrap <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2861bac1df6981aea3166d018234534d7f1f6b9c546b7a207443db264b1da0dad7be4c91aa5df6de&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=zi8FabvEXTaJKh8LEEEpOnpQq-774k6kC1GP_I7OUw&e=>>
Todd White, Bloomberg

European stocks gained alongside U.S. index futures as worries appeared to ebb about the slowdown in global growth. Emerging-market shares advanced, while the dollar and Treasuries held steady.

Payers

How Employers Are Fixing Health Care <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D3b1ce094c1a1afa2adb7bb233a900cd971764dbb41f8ff6a67f568d6c10ab11e6e04ef822a8b002a9b0e3827e790ebb&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=V24rEaE0gg1uO8fZgVnmyKB4txyHVcn_cVbevyZ3gBQ&e=>>
Lisa Woods et al., Harvard Business Review

Walmart has embraced a new approach to improve the quality of care and lower costs. The results have been dramatic.

Broker Websites Expand Health Plan Shopping Options While Glossing Over Details
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f03493f043122c1bee07040f3d0a1699a3af802d0746a6ae13c0da1fb280fab2845d996c2f4a3ba211a60&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=pdZSpkH5-CKBxQGwXUswXKfKUe0dtL8wKzLR3bvan0g&e=>>
Julie Appleby, Kaiser Health News

Some websites consumers use to buy their own health insurance don't provide full information on plan choices or Medicaid eligibility, and appear to encourage selection of less comprehensive coverage that provides higher commissions to brokers, according to a report released Friday by the left-leaning Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

Bill would use tax returns to identify and help Marylanders without health insurance
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f03498161d7f46aaf81e0212836b0df55d087f1522a49c7ff5f09a0e7ab9fd719935a2da8058ad59c7003&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=6_HI-UY-s2H-btAN_mihPfFQ-j8qPy91cbthbtX-dAY&e=>>
Pamela Wood, The Baltimore Sun

Maryland would use state tax forms to identify uninsured residents and refer them to options for no-cost or low-cost health care under a bill moving forward in the General Assembly. The bill, if approved, would add a question on state tax returns asking taxpayers if they have health insurance.

Providers

Nursing Home Fines Drop As Trump Administration Heeds Industry Complaints

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349bfff06e6c49857d8733da0bf3ef850c01635f60a2953e40d63c47d2c8d24439e46128c2d4281a73b&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=To0XnpN7fGhy6lbvpVIPPA4gtgvE4okvGZYJxmJiCY&e=>
Jordan Rau, Kaiser Health News

The Trump administration's decision to alter the way it punishes nursing homes has resulted in lower fines against many facilities found to have endangered or injured residents. The average fine dropped to \$28,405 under the current administration, down from \$41,260 in 2016, President Barack Obama's final year in office, federal records show.

Rural nursing homes face closure as occupancy wanes <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349c50b27eb14f85a64e562128b3407ccc489a8e42bd4b5ce3223564e910562521baa7e2afbf71a635c&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=Tb8MaczlYvCRtGUm3DB_UTYNIHAL07Um3SdSaise4qo&e=>
Alex Kacik, Modern Healthcare

Rural skilled-nursing facility occupancy levels continue to decline, making them susceptible to closure or consolidation, researchers at the National Investment Center for Seniors Housing & Care said. While average occupancy levels in urban and rural areas have relatively stabilized over the past year, there is still a significant gap between the two at 83.7% and 80.4% as of the fourth quarter of 2018, NIC data show.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

OxyContin's maker is accused of fueling the opioid epidemic. Its new overdose antidote was just fast-tracked by the FDA <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349dfaa5cd4d7d1f12b5720c9aee5ad0eedf3e3a0919919ff82656a179cf4b6517d58318febcc64b0d3&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=lnGTkg3GW552Puv08GVOyFDhFLVCDS2SSXSphD4kOqk&e=>
Nadia Kounang, CNN

The company whose drugs are at the center of America's deadly opioid epidemic was given a green light Wednesday to accelerate the development of a new opioid antidote. The US Food and Drug Administration granted Purdue Pharma's experimental opioid overdose drug fast-track designation.

An ICU staple has exponentially spiked in price. Can compounding solve that problem? Now the courts will decide <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349f272fb34179e25a01ec69a3b5cfba3f487f619d35121cbf8cd014bcd389d1a772a1e53c49e8136bb&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0IgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=vtLoccggh2h-dxThXTAguzjbqXoGL8tKU_781VRzNPk&e=>
Nicholas Florko, Stat News

When a sepsis patient goes into vasodilatory shock - that is, blood stops flowing to the brain and other vital organs - the intensive care unit springs into action. Alarms blare and frenzied doctors and nurses rush to find a crash cart, scrambling through its contents for a decades-old drug: vasopressin.

Whistleblowers allege CHS made false claims about EHR technology

<[A whistleblower accused Franklin, Tenn.-based Community Systems of submitting hundreds of millions of dollars in false claims to HHS for federal incentive payments for meaningfully using electronic health records. The lawsuit, unsealed by a federal court in Miami on Thursday, claimed that CHS made it a priority for its hospitals to submit attestations for incentive payments because they were an important source of revenue for the system.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f034908c0dbc8b0345c36da75ff34edb9d920b14b93f115897e57174e1f29940cfecce9f4e02e11e4b1db&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=0tsAMcVyJBuq8QFs5j42bfWJref8lkwFPQfn4PGWQ2Y&e=>
Shelby Livingston, Modern Healthcare</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Will Machines Be Able To Tell When Patients Are About To Die? <[<\[The doctor-patient relationship-the heart of medicine-is broken: Doctors are too distracted and overwhelmed to truly connect with their patients, and medical errors and misdiagnoses abound. In Deep Medicine, physician Eric Topol reveals how artificial intelligence can help.\]\(https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f034935c08bdc77cba28351b2051bf2bef7ff24e46c4c4c089635a750423a683a637301976d08e5c66cd0&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=DxG2jt91ws9c6bUZcx-qZyKh6rlbLc_H5d5xatj99AM&e=>
Eric Topol, Wired</p></div><div data-bbox=\)](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f034935c08bdc77cba28351b2051bf2bef7ff24e46c4c4c089635a750423a683a637301976d08e5c66cd0&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=DxG2jt91ws9c6bUZcx-qZyKh6rlbLc_H5d5xatj99AM&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

We Must Address Rising Health Care Costs With Patient-Centered Solutions

<[Across the nation, there's a collective agreement that something must be done by lawmakers and regulators to address the rising cost of health care. As new policies and regulations are designed to meet affordability standards, it is important that patient-centered solutions remain at the forefront.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349a0a589366e440816cfd2c2b1b67bb3c59a2f3daa466c6fc8d0beaa0a06aad10f64d3dd47412c1c53&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=zwpRgofbETq0ekBeVNT2Xji4jYwuudjN_PPCENHhgWs&e=>
Tony Coelho, Morning Consult</p></div><div data-bbox=)

How the not-for-profit Civica Rx will disrupt the generic drug industry <[<\[The generic drug industry should cause prices for medications to drop. But lately it has been engaging in price gouging\]\(https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349340745aca5c87328dc3a09f313cd9051f161813e8a3b6bbb52a48989b9981533fc164d1f3db15480&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=mJMYQOTvyUKFTdtl2c12oaH_Ejc_AXpogwHO6504kCE&e=>
Marc Harrison, Stat News</p></div><div data-bbox=\)](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Dbaeb1df5610f0349340745aca5c87328dc3a09f313cd9051f161813e8a3b6bbb52a48989b9981533fc164d1f3db15480&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=mJMYQOTvyUKFTdtl2c12oaH_Ejc_AXpogwHO6504kCE&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

and making it difficult to obtaining some vital medications.

Research Reports

4Q18 Skilled Nursing Data Report <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D41bcc8de34c1b44b8469994963e3ce65810a0607f9340cb853055d239707b6f1fe87732d76d652cb921cb785214b44fa&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=DXqbGwclJp4TgMFpD7XJJ4Ltgelel5ii_aAqkCNEePs&e=>>
National Investment Center

The NIC Skilled Nursing Data Report is released quarterly to provide operators and investors with timely, relevant data that is not readily available from other sources.

The "Medicare for All" Continuum: A New Comparison Tool for Congressional Health Bills Illustrates the Range of Reform Ideas <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D41bcc8de34c1b44b8e35deaa3f68cca1a78b24dd2e051eb9619295150a52fb7e660310bc8b20abda723f8d93be840552&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=mlURg9i9_7FYWsyWDuuN2jBEsAQB64Qtsl567gNUdWU&e=>>
Sara R. Collins, The Commonwealth Fund

Replacing most private insurance with a Medicare-like system for everyone has instilled both hope and fear across the country depending on people's perspective or financial stake in the current health care system. But a closer look at recent congressional bills introduced by Democrats reveals a set of far more nuanced approaches to improving the nation's health care system than the term Medicare for All suggests.

"Direct Enrollment" in Marketplace Coverage Lacks Protections for Consumers, Exposes Them to Harm <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D41bcc8de34c1b44b0dfd7ae40aaa3a5b85e3547a40e4ff67fc9a66818cbef0f1ee8500ee557e62d490aeb6c1434a131d&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=tbfm2H5Czmay1ai75EY4tR7AjJUcHI-4-TkvMI_3rPc&e=>>
Tara Straw, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) established health insurance marketplaces to serve as a single place where consumers could compare health plans based on price and quality and apply for financial assistance. All marketplace plans meet a consistent set of standards: they cover a core set of benefits, can't set premiums based on health status or gender, and are displayed in an impartial way to simplify consumer decision-making.

Variation in Surgical Outcomes Across Networks of the Highest-Rated US Hospitals <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D41bcc8de34c1b44be5b374d17e9f6cbd401bdc8ab39191f1943b9cf951a0d12a3ef534561abe6a1b6b4469ebcd399cda&d=DwMCAQ&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=FtVZquKzcA5sKyGdXL-hIDA2zLM5WaWyyj2XzrRezaw&s=uyLyR97WBWAghpJoSOZCOKsHKCmtr37JlBuijQXlow&e=>>
Kyle H. Sheetz et al., JAMA Surgery

In this population-based study of 87 hospitals and 143,774 patients, outcomes were not consistently better at Honor Roll hospitals. Within networks, the risk-adjusted rates for all outcomes varied widely across affiliated hospitals; for

example, the differences in failure to rescue varied by 1.1-fold in some networks to as much as 4.9-fold in others.

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By Yusra Murad <<mailto:ymurad@morningconsult.com>>

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- AbbVie Inc. reported revenue of \$7.83 billion in the first quarter of 2019, down 1.3 percent year over year, as quarterly revenue from Humira - its top-selling treatment for rheumatoid arthritis - dropped 5.6 percent to \$4.45 billion, falling for the first time in years as a result of new competition from lower-cost generics. (Financial Times <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a188d244bed5e63f644f65e977b08284e89f6025237d5584b275207e2192c76b08e5ce28ecaefec307&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=d1d7eF2peYtm0bM_zloDZNT3CkLihmluhyeyLbnnb1A&e=>>)
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. posted revenue of \$5.92 billion in the first quarter, with net earnings growing to \$1.71 billion from \$1.49 billion the same time last year. The drugmaker, on the brink of acquiring biotechnology company Celgene Corp. in a \$74 billion deal, credited its earnings to high sales of Eliquis, its blockbuster blood thinner. (Reuters <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1463dd7d049dcf2bebf87c5b884f2ca3ae93e232c1bf8a019791975c3ef2adfb7bbc0c5cd619f0642&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=OAU0s8bBTKi2n4xaNyWw_Uxdy1hVly_yplzepRAYvDA&e=>>)

• In a new paper, the authors of federal recommendations for the prescription of opioids for chronic pain treatment said the guidelines have been improperly implemented by the health care system, withholding pain medication from patients who need them. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention prescribing guidelines were intended to be applied for patients with chronic pain not tied to cancer, palliative care or end-of-life care, the authors said, but they have been erroneously affecting care for the wrong sets of patients at times. (Stat News
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The Brands That Define American Culture and Commerce

Morning Consult analyzed over 400,000 survey interviews to determine this year's rankings. See who made the list.

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General

Most Americans want lower health care costs, not 'Medicare for All' or Obamacare repeal
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1ef2cca2605d245197259bd3662ed757a75ebba2f932527ab32225db82943a01451fed26b92734317&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=CEn6volV993e1HGLJxtX-2BQfwqGCJBaKmsxcdwNGtg&e=>
Tami Luhby, CNN

Washington may be obsessed with enacting "Medicare for All" or repealing Obamacare, but Americans have other priorities. They want Congress to prioritize reducing health care costs and protecting those with pre-existing conditions, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation poll released Wednesday.

Health commissioner says Alaska isn't seeking a Medicaid grant <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1a1204bde47797fbf6f7dcda5007db7d94a3f2e278c23ad04ac658ca6426e0eb382420de311b30e2d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=68J0xdV847J8RfSNcuS7MEEiZQtPZ6y6jP6CGvwAbz8&e=>>
Dermot Cole, Daily News-Miner

On March 1, Gov. Mike Dunleavy sent a letter to President Donald Trump in which he said, among other things: "Your Medicaid administrator, Seema Verma, has urged us to be the first state to receive Medicaid dollars as a block grant. We are eager to do this, but your support of her on this 'first' will keep the proper focus and speed on the application."

FDA hires Pew director to lead regulatory policy <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a17d203b4706fb265fa1117f263d06ebb4f18ea4405b40860f4c6053b78c46a44fba4e074abc1b1ba&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=igEmfwceYlkK08ldm&tQDIsr_IOrEqKXPU5e-276YJlo&e=>>
Nicholas Florko, Stat News

Elizabeth Jungman, a well-known public health expert and a Capitol Hill veteran, will lead the FDA's regulatory policy office starting this summer, STAT has learned. Jungman, who currently serves as head of public health programs at the Pew Charitable Trusts, will direct the FDA's Office of Regulatory Policy, a post with sweeping authority over FDA's human drugs portfolio, two sources told STAT.

Court to hear Washington challenge to Trump abortion rule <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1b09a112303518b6b7a0d7989535692ad516b5f22c06f69315e8ddef6c3a4e31639570b1ae90ffc7b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=TgsIDn7joNi2YML4V4dpQt7Uf7NxLq7Liz2F3aVj6SI&e=>>
The Associated Press

A federal judge in Washington state will hear arguments in two cases against new Trump administration rules that could cut off federal funding for health care providers who refer patients for an abortion.

HHS nearing plan to roll back transgender protections <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1610911980993c7c6dccabae7a994833ca85886a18d9a39237399d94434c6a63b3e49f941846f9069&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=RR3erilrL1YMJZiS5zBWIGvYxpLb4LgWI8mDibwyys&e=>>
Dan Diamond, Politico

The Trump administration is preparing to roll back protections for transgender patients while empowering health care workers to refuse care based on religious objections, according to three officials with knowledge of the pending regulations. The long-expected rules have alarmed patient advocates and public health groups, which have warned the health department that the rules could harm vulnerable populations' access to care.

They worked in sweltering heat for Exxon, Shell and Walmart. They didn't get paid a dime

<[Julia Harris and Shoshana Walter, Reveal](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a15aa5ac1119f52e910b54e046a23dfa24f10ba8ebfe0f87039937d7f1e3e402fc8eaa5597d4478459&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=1DR6PVRnTG0yYElluDnAHloL684GjLZygjViYO6YTE&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

A nationally renowned drug rehab program in Texas and Louisiana has sent patients struggling with addiction to work for free for some of the biggest companies in America, likely in violation of federal labor law. The Cenikor Foundation has dispatched tens of thousands of patients to work without pay at more than 300 for-profit companies over the years. In the name of rehabilitation, patients have moved boxes in a sweltering warehouse for Walmart, built an oil platform for Shell and worked at an Exxon refinery along the Mississippi River.

House Dem chairmen to meet with progressives amid drug pricing divisions

<[Peter Sullivan, The Hill](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1e6c4f7cc93d985a1cb55d4e250278290c6e97a978b691d4ac8170a772e4e21025b12358cd06f6665&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=W-7yzbaCcDUWshhcUpIC69rvWXgML2GhFmFJH8A_gTE&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

Two key House Democratic committee chairmen will meet with progressive House Democrats next week amid divisions in the party over how to craft their signature legislation to lower drug prices, according to House Democratic aides.

More millennials, Gen Z are dying of opioid overdoses, researchers say

<[Berkeley Lovelace Jr., CNBC](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a148d847acc203a86f22c135820d45391795fd4ee9f174c59fb751d96457b4752c369c2a5e6ade08ec&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=T9QUPPsrRuW0_rkQxflaT6T6HJF6BQpoOvWhmr_twh4&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

The nationwide opioid epidemic has led to a sharp increase of teens and young adults dying from drug overdoses, according to new research published Thursday. Death rates from drug overdoses for people between the ages of 15 and 24 rose by 19.75% from 2006 to 2015, according to a study published in the peer-reviewed Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs.

U.S. measles cases hit highest level since eradication in 2000 <[Jonathan Allen, Reuters](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1a92dd4e3e1cc21fb89de08cd9e8d28f53a8ca9561efa0a25c1e88940fe02844724b08c01d37b82c5&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=zhlXHXMQVOAGw7C-gEygDUY2DQgJ6yEy8jgUrVOAads&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

The United States has confirmed 695 measles cases so far this year, the highest level since the country declared it had eliminated the virus in 2000, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said on Wednesday.

Stocks Mixed as Traders Digest Flood of Earnings: Markets Wrap <[Morning Consult Health_ AbbVie's Revenue Drops in Q1 as Generic](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1a92dd4e3e1cc21fb89de08cd9e8d28f53a8ca9561efa0a25c1e88940fe02844724b08c01d37b82c5&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=zhlXHXMQVOAGw7C-gEygDUY2DQgJ6yEy8jgUrVOAads&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

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Eddie van der Walt, Bloomberg

U.S. equity-index futures were mixed on Thursday and European shares edged lower as investors parsed a slew of earnings against a backdrop of global growth concerns. The dollar hit a four-month high.

Payers

Association Insurance Pushes On Despite Court Ruling <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a17c8078c6916e442a0b14f8637ee4a3cb3c8ae54e0f7fc8b05542b08c524692bd05f9dd29c663e488&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=YmeAZH3HehfhHHr7B5Ym5ze4Bzox5R22yw8HhwFxxgw&e=>>
Julie Appleby, Kaiser Health News

When the Trump administration in June issued rules making it easier for small employers to band together to buy health insurance, "we started looking immediately," recalled Scott Lyon, a top executive at the Small Business Association of Michigan.

CMS invites states to test new dual-eligible care models <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1ddc424c890214fetc4cfc78931245de8156a020e2d35070d575dd3e216e52ead8db4b841d2c38958&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=J0NvBCyLHCqnTU5_uX9QF1rql9NI-dVu_CjxNxNP1tw&e=>>
Shelby Livingston, Modern Healthcare

The CMS is inviting state Medicaid agencies to pursue new ways of integrating care for patients eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid-a population that has complex health needs and accounts for a big portion of spending in both public health programs.

In Pennsylvania, Two Health Care Behemoths Are Fighting. Patients Are Caught In Middle.
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1f7a7ea52a994ac88cb78847dd2accafa36febb8098845e1ead4b1e6853f41a971f5862818bbe5228&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=636dIBLUMXRDq_aQkaBa4tAeFi4Zc8YGwNJkrLXH18&e=>>
Steven Findlay, Kaiser Health News

Cancer survivors Evalyn Bodick, 74, and Barbara Marsic, 63, are caught in the crossfire of one of the fiercest health care fights in the country. They fear they are about to lose access to the doctors they say have kept them alive. The reason: the latest skirmish in a nearly decade-old battle between two large health systems in Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield.

CVS will bring hundreds of SmileDirectClub shops to its stores, offering a cheaper way to straighten teeth
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a16a1a5899f2450387f5432ec1cf51739bcda117918c46c72053475e4f9426e08410e39b77f45752b>

6&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=DsSRD23_mkiyVjA5P7inCUmYnCablKhpR4pEdo0RIN0&e=>
Lauren Thomas and Angelica LaVito, CNBC

CVS Health is about to make it easier to straighten your teeth. The drugstore chain will open "hundreds" of SmileDirectClub locations inside its stores this year, with plans to open more than 1,000 locations over the next two years, the company announced Thursday.

Providers

Pain Clinics' Doctors Needlessly Tested Hundreds Of Urine Samples, Court Records Show
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1fc560018b2c21959004da2db7e5f7638ece1ee3647bfb080c0824ffb75aa79e69ed83d4d731fb91c&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=R22U_IIFT2jtp0RuT0aYWLAQbT2tDMiruVOqNXLpbB8&e=>
Fred Schulte, Kaiser Health News

A Tennessee-based chain of pain clinics that abruptly shut down last summer faces five whistleblower lawsuits accusing it of defrauding Medicare and other health insurers by billing for hundreds of unnecessary urine drug tests and other dubious health services, newly unsealed court records show.

Feds Intend to Sue Tennessee Lawmaker Over Pain Clinics <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1e3070a4a78f09c042ec50e5d0add45bccd6bf85328c4dbbeb817f242e07c1534cf2c19323e0e27ea&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=C4polzKZw75rUXZB27oCX3VnLSUkeaUDNrnwllbxurw&e=>
The Associated Press

Federal prosecutors said this week they intend to file a lawsuit against a Tennessee state senator and other co-owners of a now-shuttered pain clinic company. Court filings said Comprehensive Pain Specialists, which was based in Tennessee and once operated in 12 states, defrauded the government of millions of dollars by submitting claims for unnecessary procedures and falsifying documents.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

Altria's cannabis investment eats into first-quarter earnings, drives profit down 41%. Shares slide
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a12665073b4b7c4649120e91e36569a83370e59cd129a1e37ebed89c369c2c5555b0295b46cebf8c9e&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=R7revFXH4WdCTnnHVV2IrlzkhpnJNXNXNlpLgSrhWyaE&e=>
Angelica LaVito, CNBC

Altria's investment in Canadian cannabis company Cronos ate into the tobacco company's first-quarter profits, the company said Thursday. Altria, which sells best-selling cigarette brand Marlboro in the U.S., reported first-quarter net income of \$1.12 billion, or 60 cents per share, down 41% from \$1.89 billion, or \$1 per share a year earlier.

Gilead defied a government HIV patent. The Justice Department has opened a review.

<[The Department of Justice has launched a review of a government patent for use of a drug that prevents HIV infection, according to a retired Centers for Disease Control scientist who was among scientists who spoke with a department lawyer last week. Thomas Folks said a Justice Department lawyer visited the CDC in Atlanta on April 16 to question government scientists who pioneered the use of the drug Truvada for prevention.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1e89f204ece12e88d64225f4910b8d9040bb117f93ef9dc8b15bdea2d20ff97fad86a157477cb52a6&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=Hp77NpOrp6bWbzHkqRbBGIZ8fuQntEVtMR_s90wvaoU&e=>
Christopher Rowland, The Washington Post</p></div><div data-bbox=)

'Pharma bro' Martin Shkreli moved from federal prison after claim he was running drug company with banned cellphone <[The "Pharma Bro" is back in his native Brooklyn - for now. Notorious drug-company fraudster Martin Shkreli has been removed from a federal prison in New Jersey after there were claims he was running his pharmaceuticals firm while locked up with the help of a contraband cellphone.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a13fc8ac32f8eaffa257c164948e252ca281349b787cf9c801ffbd80d617a182279d238463c57aa68e&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=JIII_nevanrDzngt0frJ1nP07RgUiHDxuz2hsIYKpT4&e=>
Dan Mangan and Jim Forkin, CNBC</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Majority Of Americans Say Drug Companies Should Be Held Responsible For Opioid Crisis
<[A new poll by NPR and Ipsos finds a third of Americans have been touched directly by the deadly opioid epidemic that still kills more than 100 people every day. "One in three have been personally affected in some way, either by knowing someone who has overdosed or by knowing someone with an opioid addiction," said Mallory Newell, lead Ipsos researcher on the survey.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a13d6736c1c33db5ee51e8c0eb6a56ad9043162ec80b9e175d0984e27bb67fd741ba864eedf6992cc6&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=yux3eU3b1-bV6J_NovEPKdAQOmMEzz-li7zP0iN1IkM&e=>
Brian Mann, NPR News</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Echoes of Big Tobacco fight in Big Pharma hearings <[Congress has made curtailing high drug prices a priority this year and has hauled in some of Big Pharma's top executives to prove it. Committee hearings on drug prices - the House and Senate have held a half dozen this year - have sought accountability from the industry for drug prices that have forced patients into agonizing decisions about how to budget their lives and caused one-in-four diabetics to ration insulin.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a18c57a6b5752de33fc78cb2eec52f5ef2da137ff93ef611ef3b73e6abdfbd01451b2a9d936b87cd83&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=NGnMkK0Id3iWA7AsDKRPRE0z_53NBDTrQeYrcLaTGT0&e=>
Emily Kopp, Roll Call</p></div><div data-bbox=)

A Barren Landscape for Meth Treatment <[Morning Consult Health_ AbbVie's
Revenue Drops in Q1 as Generic](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a18c57a6b5752de33fc78cb2eec52f5ef2da137ff93ef611ef3b73e6abdfbd01451b2a9d936b87cd83&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=NGnMkK0Id3iWA7AsDKRPRE0z_53NBDTrQeYrcLaTGT0&e=></p></div><div data-bbox=)

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kJVnARGbph6akEHD7aEP1bzHok&e=>
Katelyn Newman, U.S. News & World Report

As potent forms of the drug flood U.S. communities, help for users is limited.

Health IT

Humana announces virtual primary-care plan <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a19a0e6322fbd4900bda0819ab4b4e18ea2157126e8e260fe5caa9bb82b4b9c963de692af6fb21fc0d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=hLcOcOLLjU3jDfnaSlky3No06NcqyqoXEan6ZtbFbjc&e=>>
Shelby Livingston, Modern Healthcare

Humana and telehealth company Doctor on Demand will launch a new health plan design allowing employers and employees to receive primary care predominantly through virtual visits. The plan, called On Hand, allows Humana members to avoid the doctor's office and access primary-care services virtually from one Doctor on Demand physician, with access to urgent care, preventive care and behavioral health services.

A medical app uses your smartphone's camera to carry out lab tests at home
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1e1b6250c578a837bbb5b37ca3b96b79a67be9673ac236fc2c3a1d19e23a0da2532d014f73b898ca7&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=fTjBQdK2zKzJYPWDXF_YReBNfY7QxgbsjAlZnrvtQyg&e=>>
Matthew Kalman, MIT Technology Review

Healthy-io's system means patients at risk for kidney failure don't have to visit the clinic-and has boosted the number who take the vital tests, it was announced today.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Precision Health: A High-Tech Cure for the Spiraling Cost of Chronic Disease
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Melissa Stevens, Morning Consult

President Donald Trump's recent call for Congress to replace the Affordable Care Act with a more-effective, less-expensive alternative highlights the need for a national policy and investment road map that will lead to lower-cost preventative care for Americans.

Research Reports

US Health Services Deals Insights: Q1 2019 <[In Q1 2019, Health Services deal value was above the quarterly average for 2014 to 2018, driven by the Centene-WellCare megadeal. Although deal volume was on par with Q2 2017, the level remained above 200 for the 18th consecutive quarter.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a1c669c6bb3b8df27f0600104dcd240c652d65fa3fabf8bc866ecc0db95988e7c4df44f5567d2f686f&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=KRTjlUWX8ZssbtJGn-jKUvUQfQ_nYys-iDVPguHhVIE&e=>PwC</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Speech synthesis from neural decoding of spoken sentences <[Technology that translates neural activity into speech would be transformative for people who are unable to communicate as a result of neurological impairments. Decoding speech from neural activity is challenging because speaking requires very precise and rapid multi-dimensional control of vocal tract articulators.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D828024e28b0317a142444ca53b69ee9dfccaa01f5a0d54eaa179a3fca5dca95f1dc5eb234f3635df5f35a0994584ad0b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=tG8ctOL0vlynRgoFSYTOx9dxrrcUpzrhXBeeA4Fugos&s=IAd4uyaDpWYywwlRtd5EqISi7GY5hsHSaL1A52knTgl&e=>Gopala K. Anumanchipalli et al., Nature</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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Morning Consult Health: Insys Therapeutics to Pay \$225 Million to Settle Opioid Marketing Case

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By Yusra Murad <mailto:ymurad@morningconsult.com>

Top Stories

- Opioid manufacturer Insys Therapeutics Inc. has settled a government investigation into its marketing practices for its fentanyl-based medication for \$225 million. Insys admitted it was guilty of participating in a fraud "speaker program" scheme in which doctors were bribed to prescribe the company's product, Subsys, even when it was unnecessary for patients. (NPR News <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f86c92a390a7e564e384c38b5a2a8231b7bf26e70656795f7011d2c8fa668affa32fecd0c90960e172&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=Kgdriy4dZ-CYzGSKcBkHusCZCAfbLGxkwPsnDp0LFSs&e=>>)

- The Department of Veterans Affairs will begin allowing veterans to obtain medical care from the private sector if they have a wait time of 20 days or more for an appointment at their local VA hospital, despite pushback from officials within the department who are concerned the agency is unprepared to take on such a significant shift. Advocates of the new policy, which will also allow veterans to use many walk-in clinics, are aiming to further reduce the wait time threshold to 14 days by 2020. (The New York Times <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f84a9641915a3e4216029cde9b6b85035a71e1fbfd27c20a12db54caa81b66a8d68302136b04ba0573&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=VaWPMaOe1VGH6qCsw6ymOWYrTGM4qzf7bvrUIAJMeUI&e=>>)

- William Husel, an Ohio doctor, was charged with killing 25 patients over the course of four years by prescribing high and sometimes fatal doses of fentanyl between February 2015 and November 2018. Husel, who turned himself in to police, could face 15 years to life in prison for each count if convicted. (Reuters <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f82fef91f8edbef1715e16c2bb768ce6f0af2fb31a33b955ed91f3aadd83e8e66c083ac939b333737a&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=qbUpvURIk7YeKAtzJEVQjLHqV2_FE2m-H8WkQeY45Og&e=>>)

Chart Review

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06/13/2019

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General

New restriction on fetal tissue research 'was the president's decision'

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Amy Goldstein, The Washington Post

The Trump administration on Wednesday ended funding of medical research by government scientists using fetal tissue and canceled a multimillion-dollar contract for a university laboratory that relies on the material to test new HIV therapies. The determination to tighten federal support for an ideologically polarizing aspect of medical research was made by President Trump himself, a White House spokesman confirmed.

Biden's Views on Abortion Draw Fresh Criticism and Expose Rift With Fellow Democrats

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8c0863161793e397ac5caadb08a84f8ade478c829a8ba0a4e9b63e1cc75a2545833e7c86d3a695e86&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=89QGXDReKgENevBj5MYKfLkd9WFa7a4lc8ntJ1BJa40&e=>

Stephanie Armour and Ken Thomas, The Wall Street Journal

Joe Biden's longstanding opposition to the use of federal funding for most abortions drew fresh fire from abortion-rights groups, underlining how some of the Democratic front-runner's centrist positions put him out of step with the rest of his party's presidential field.

Joe Biden Worked To Undermine The Affordable Care Act's Coverage Of Contraception

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f86d4cd977b21f5dfd83f0b74cf425815b966916679bb5c29d9aacd86c231276a113ee1b9d01d5fc90&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=IKWeFmosJJx52J5owHbBXUpS0k5XoMTX68cBlweAhmg&e=>

Ryan Grim, The Intercept

As vice president, Joe Biden repeatedly sought to undermine the Affordable Care Act's contraception mandate, working in alliance with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to push for a broad exemption that would have left millions of women without coverage.

Elizabeth Warren, on MSNBC, Calls Hyde Amendment an Assault on the 'Most Vulnerable' Women
<[Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, slowly gaining ground in the crowded Democratic presidential primary, appeared on MSNBC on Wednesday for a friendly town-hall event, which gave her ample opportunity to describe her signature policies and deliver some of her most reliable applause lines.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8db1e146e790942eda1ede4253ffd13887a60b1f976ef4356efc2f24a7574ddc0e7ab727e28417d36&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=RA12d1TqHb6PIB7Ncq5AGoTHzE2yz2qwzWbAf7UckQ&e=> Maggie Astor, The New York Times</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Everyone Knows Money Influences Politics ... Except Scientists <[Why is it so hard to prove something that's common knowledge? And why try to do it in the first place?](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8fafdac68099a0621c4b64e41fd20e1ab374fc21a311a12a38ea4b6957f9c592a9c38b2124656ea49&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=h8ZjuVbUpKpXFe0vcwiBoluH5CF228pV1AchCC_pm8&e=> Maggie Koerth-Baker, FiveThirtyEight</p></div><div data-bbox=)

2020 hopeful Gillibrand unveils plan to legalize marijuana <[Democratic presidential candidate Kirsten Gillibrand has a plan to legalize marijuana and expunge all nonviolent criminal charges associated with it. The New York senator says in a Medium post on Wednesday she'd work with Congress to decriminalize recreational marijuana use and tax nonprescription marijuana products.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f899f6c70408b3529b30594a47c418c9b201511350d680ea9379945f859d395a48124415aed23caf9f&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=T6po74NI7sy6LX_0mLJkr19lfPde-nOlhFJmXQjyy70&e=> The Associated Press</p></div><div data-bbox=)

U.S. records 1,000th case of measles, officials blame misinformation for outbreak
<[The United States has recorded 1,001 measles cases so far this year in the worst outbreak of the highly contagious disease in more than a quarter-century, federal health officials said on Wednesday as they issued a new plea for parents to vaccinate their children. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said 61 new cases have been reported since May 27 of the sometimes deadly disease.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8d2632684fec099fa3e11e8682674e7ecc6bf0c3181a9f0d2e67ed965b641a7a43b76c52f2160a8c3&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=28jJ_r3xKMMyp2RWUkH0DwBK-Sim2KfjcshZCzSZ_LA&e=> Brendan O'Brien, Reuters</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Putting the Glam in Mammogram <[Morning Consult Health_ Insys
Therapeutics to Pay \\$225 Million to](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f87d0a53ce795e3f8d8a20e76169767626275028fe0efba05f7059c9c74611f84d637a0412a2165f91&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-
bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=20aV3ejqtnZPmX7s2876BhmdTY6N3ehoAxbQ7_YgKhl&e=>
Stephanie Clifford, The New York Times

Clinics are trying to improve the experience to get women to show up for regular appointments.

Trump Administration Suspends U.S. Educational Programs for Migrant Children
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8ce3bfde631408e3a61d34d648753c9118e98f8f17e37d0e95c9703288aada9ae71ddbe3964eb8cc8&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=iDo6MDBg3Ms9F67G3Yax_-WKeL5U3qlNhL3-R_IVSQs&e=>
Kristina Cooke and Mica Rosenberg, Reuters

The Trump administration is suspending educational, legal and recreational programs for migrant children in its custody, saying an influx of children crossing the border without a parent or legal guardian was putting a "tremendous strain" on the resources of the agency tasked with housing them.

Study: Fewer Heart Deaths Tied To ACA's Medicaid Expansion <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8573808494e1b6ed4e5356fd936fd18049cf6b3cfc0b4acc6eb79039a5bd67c3e0601ac95f046f777&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=whtWkHMWr928My01ymSLa_os4BE2K0YIIQTkQQRV5Ys&e=>
>
Bruce Japsen, Forbes

The expansion of Medicaid benefits has been linked to "lower cardiovascular mortality in middle-aged adults" in states that expanded such health insurance coverage under the Affordable Care Act, new research indicates.

U.S. Futures, Europe Stocks Climb Alongside Bonds: Markets Wrap <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f881430e818a0a7b7bea38dfd51b26b7d7e5b97c93f260e8b438653a44bfa22ae8ff40ac9232ea1e7&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=S7qwDaVHkVKk1IKdar7Fw7z8AFMoclG_-m7CabrlKn4&e=>
Samuel Potter, Bloomberg

U.S. equity-index futures and European shares advanced on Thursday as the prospect of easier monetary policy continued to help fuel a rebound in stocks. The appetite for risk was measured, however, and government bonds also rose.

Payers

Haven wants to help 'the American public get better health and reduce the costs,' JPMorgan CEO says
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8dfbf6f83395cf827cfa148e57b237aa41f1a5f44e809617898500206b6c3b5284686001731c30aba&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=mp80-y6bvra4L7nLwarGcSMPHdj6wGL0iVKA5TOCs0k&e=>
Kate Sheridan, Stat News

One of the leaders behind the Dr. Atul Gawande-helmed health venture Haven has dropped the pretense the new company will only focus on the founding companies' employees. Jamie Dimon, the CEO of JPMorgan Chase, said Wednesday that Haven will take aim at health care problems that extend beyond his employees and those at Amazon and Berkshire Hathaway, the other two titans behind the joint venture.

CVS-Aetna attempts to assuage Part D antitrust concerns <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f83c83b9297c9ae9bc1b28c7712a05eaf9a6f02952fce2d2a6ea2dadd525c49ba2f642d5e9a782388f&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=mzv8R4NTW2-IUTZBu_DFDFUG7694zr1vfdQrmbgfD6Q&e=>>
Susannah Luthi, Modern Healthcare

Witnesses in favor of the CVS-Aetna merger appeared to make headway on Wednesday in convincing a federal judge that at least one concern raised about the \$70 billion deal doesn't pose an anticompetitive threat.

Serota retiring as Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association CEO <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8c744d9cc3b14430b5002349d5a2c4994d7e8f8da93c32f3350bda463e751062563d209102882971b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=-ns1vpck6JB1rA6CcNhAv9IHed9KLR29bBSTDlwVJQQ&e=>>
Tara Bannow, Modern Healthcare

The Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association announced Wednesday its longtime CEO will retire at the end of 2020. The Blues board of directors is working to identify Scott Serota's replacement to ensure a smooth transition, according to the release.

Providers

Doctors' organization: calling abortion bans 'fetal heartbeat bills' is misleading <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f899fe9604d8fd0489a44690ca7ee5e91c0e56173c4721bc1f7d24cd3ba1ad0260085fa6b2b64c64d8&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=bg8Q1mUwi1nfmX07cNVR7-rQyQkKW8D07hK0mkH9BwE&e=>>
Jessica Glenza, The Guardian

America's largest professional organization for doctors specializing in women's health has come out against the term "fetal heartbeat bill" to describe abortion bans recently enacted by US states. The president of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists called the bills "arbitrary" bans not reflective of fetal development or science.

Government to Start Posting List of Troubled Nursing Homes <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f85f82a2385ab0b96ba41b2778108d7ee9132fec654d6e087c500a87f54f0f8a73ce9e2084246f2b42&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=1v2Am7l8jbWujBbj9tvtfQShpV5lGv4hVSa-aO8s0lKE&e=>>
Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar, The Associated Press

In a turnabout, the government said Wednesday it will start posting a list of some 400 troubled nursing homes , days after senators released the "secret" document along with a report questioning oversight of poor-quality facilities.

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

AstraZeneca's blood cancer drug meets main goal in late-stage trial <[AstraZeneca Plc said on Thursday its blood cancer drug met the main goal of a final stage trial, taking the treatment one step closer to a marketing approval as the drugmaker seeks to bolster its oncology portfolio.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f87dc5db2fd7588dcde7194c4d2dc83af980c16901098b0618a89c55ad11eb430c3fcc818afdf090ef&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=p2_I3DmSqAwEpKC_6czwadTHXg0iC009w6uf1QMLI4k&e=> Sangameswaran S, Reuters</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Top Senate Republican outlines a path forward for bipartisan drug pricing bill <[A powerful Senate Republican heralded on Wednesday a slate of policies aimed at lowering the price of prescription medicines - and outlined a clear path forward for passing them into law with bipartisan, bicameral support.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8f803287b546455479dc5ec44207c33fa4a06a55152ac621d5dab1c52b28a8cba8f9d7a5f433795d5&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=VcNbbYakNNpv6LUJRkWF30q-CTsOSFsIglOjEq1XdHI&e=> Ruth Hailu, Stat News</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Takeda scraps late-stage amyloidosis study <[Takeda Pharmaceutical Co Ltd said on Wednesday it would discontinue a late-stage study testing its experimental treatment for amyloidosis, as it did not meet the first of two main goals. Amyloidosis is a rare disease caused by an abnormal build up of a substance called amyloid in organs.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f862da88561629dcd2edefddeb72f2ec4d7b795068164fd0a891088976831d5ce75bea72da32bc45b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=DN1pQVaSVV4wd4KYkBYOgpH_VsMA1GIIGUoYWuIlq_0&e=> Manojna Maddipatla, Reuters</p></div><div data-bbox=)

The Washington Post points the finger at Pfizer for staying mum about an Alzheimer's study. But there's more to the story than that <[The Washington Post on Tuesday raised some provocative questions about Pfizer's R&D operations, publishing a story that spotlights their review of research an internal group did that illustrated their blockbuster drug Enbrel could be](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f810ea98e7c804d6c7d8d4e95d4f49fe56de43499ff6d3d7b95c8d406bb9dd43bea5b1cf664e19d099&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=8YfnqD1dmA5XVii4y75ntLBqHazYjOUzWWq5c5wUcBs&e=> John Carroll, Endpoints</p></div><div data-bbox=)

effective in treating Alzheimer's - the ultimate Holy Grail in an industry that has lavished billions of dollars on drug programs in search of something that could be used to bat back the disease.

Liberals fight their own party over drug prices <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8f4cc22e12d6cebeebf509aad9c96c123319db1e337081092e24ca4b753bac4389fcb0165e776c89f4&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=H5iA0seAN4Hsc1PJt3weq05laZy4cW63Qniu0Feznng&e=>>
Adam Cancryn, Politico

House Democratic leaders are facing deep skepticism from their progressive wing over a plan empowering the government to limit prices for some expensive prescription drugs - a rift that could hurt the party on an issue that has also been embraced by President Donald Trump.

Pharmaceutical company Mallinckrodt expects to pay \$15 million to settle DOJ drug bribing probe <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8f4cc22e12d6cebeebf509aad9c96c123319db1e337081092e24ca4b753bac4389fcb0165e776c89f4&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=h8fjomKpr82Fr2bPTADcFcHzXsavn-cXhJc79blu4c&e=>>
Ashley Turner, CNBC

Shares of pharmaceutical company Mallinckrodt seesawed Wednesday after it announced a tentative deal with the U.S. Justice Department to settle a drug bribery probe into Questcor Pharmaceuticals, which it acquired in 2014. Mallinckrodt said it expects to pay \$15.4 million to the DOJ after two whistleblower lawsuits claimed Questcor improperly promoted and bribed doctors to prescribe its popular drug H.P. Acthar Gel.

Two more big states take aim at PBM pricing practices, which one lawmaker calls 'the wild west' <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8f4cc22e12d6cebeebf509aad9c96c123319db1e337081092e24ca4b753bac4389fcb0165e776c89f4&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=YaSodWiznuk9R5lYs6d4s6xRGBzNwVwZGm7fVaOch2A&e=>>
Ed Silverman, Stat News

The controversial role that pharmacy benefit managers play in prescription drug pricing is under fresh attack in a pair of new reports issued by two of the largest states by population in the U.S. - New York and Massachusetts - both of which are exploring ways to curtail various business practices used by these little-understood middlemen.

Health IT

LabCorp discloses data breach affecting 7.7 million customers <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8f4cc22e12d6cebeebf509aad9c96c123319db1e337081092e24ca4b753bac4389fcb0165e776c89f4&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=kHeixwyENL2UWcU5EjYCRBZF_hHgGjg0kW7c8TCb62Q&e=>>
Rachel Siegel, The Washington Post

LabCorp, a medical testing company, said 7.7 million customers had their personal and financial data exposed through

a breach at a third-party billing collections company. The news came just days after the same contractor, American Medical Collection Agency, notified Quest Diagnostics about the full scope of a breach affecting 11.9 million of its patients.

Growing Hack of Health-Care Data Gets Scrutiny From Congress <[A hack of health-care data involving a medical bill collector and two major diagnostics companies has grown to almost 20 million people, and is now attracting more questions from key members of Congress.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8ae65adba2ac33f0d7b7c51ee08a7d4461c208dab57354526f1e6fcd3c8bbdcf81eb625110fe5dd1&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=bLmrt3Nn7LUWNrlAyFGOWL8nCC8nih89qije3jQtA3A&e=> Robert Langreth, Bloomberg</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

House Lawmakers Breaking Down the Breast Cancer Detection Barrier <[One of the key victories contained within 2010's Affordable Care Act was the requirement that most insurance plans cover recommended preventive services for women - such as mammograms - without any patient cost-sharing. But it didn't require insurance plans to cover, without any patient cost-sharing, additional screenings and tests if that mammogram detected an abnormality.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f8dd775360713e8ffa70e539b66efabfdadc4db4f08bf6032346549ad44494a690586a356fb184d59f&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=G414vQ27xBXC-1OQcXEDTLJi5pjDF3nb-awdnyCnek&e=> Paula Schneider, Morning Consult</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Research Reports

Association of Medicaid Expansion With Cardiovascular Mortality <[In this difference-in-differences analysis, states that expanded eligibility for Medicaid had a significantly smaller increase in rates of cardiovascular mortality for middle-aged adults after expansion than states that did not expand Medicaid.](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D61bf6e64310f50f88106cd259d18969bdf6a2642026a1762aef0a16bf440f44c119c5cb92a10fa4e6b82fb5580e1be87&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=R-Puy-bfPp8MtXXNqqKs8t4P_Vn9V1kP7mQahQ9PEUM&s=N15h1ENy0tyS7XYsJBGIDllv5HJLM5XwngY3yf2OHul&e=> Sameed Ahmed M. Khatana et al., JAMA Cardiology</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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[EXTERNAL] Morning Consult Health, Presented by Better Medicare Alliance: FBI Launches Probe Into uBiome's Billing and Testing Practices

From: Morning Consult <reply@e.morningconsult.com>
To: james.f.bridenstine@nasa.gov, Bridenstine, James F. (HQ-AA000) <james.f.bridenstine@nasa.gov>
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By Yusra Murad <<mailto:ymurad@morningconsult.com>>

Top Stories

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation is probing uBiome Inc. concerning allegations that the lab-testing startup used improper billing codes in claims and ordered unnecessary tests in an effort to maximize profit, according to people familiar with the issue. The uBiome board has also formed a special committee to head its own investigation and is cooperating with federal authorities. (The Wall Street Journal <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D4ff3f887caaf96f6e52e79fea40bbc09520a5baf0517e8766a55c3e9d71e257835b5f09b94976331ad616bda43538069&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=LgrHaY-GZUPHd8s0mtHEQRugu0CN2FGcPKrT8-40F08&e=>>)
- Three health care professionals at the Department of Veterans Affairs said they were revoked of assigned patient-care and oversight responsibilities after speaking up about mistreatment of patients, contradicting President Donald Trump and federal health officials' claims that whistleblowers are not punished for disclosing wrongdoing. All three will testify ahead of a House panel on Tuesday, as the VA inspector general continues investigating the VA Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection and prepares to release its report on the office's management of whistleblower cases. (USA Today <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D4ff3f887caaf96f6ef059a9acfd8804bc19520ca9979265a2ba63017bdacde7383c725aa41773f5700122615d306efec&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=iPBKYbPtXB0uVqP8oUQ8BjlceponiTx0O9L53wbm3h0&e=>>)
- Margaret Hamburg, co-chair of an international advisory committee on human genome-editing, and Victor Dzau, president of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine, said they are concerned about a Russian biologist's plan to produce gene-edited babies using CRISPR technology but acknowledged they are powerless to stop him from doing so. Molecular biologist Denis Rebrikov of Moscow is looking to implant gene-edited embryos into women as early as this year - pending approval from the Russian government - in an attempt to create HIV-resistant offspring. (Stat News <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f2cf449882a86af2058bc4a21449bd278d21bc3086c0fd9146579fb698d92015b6e7b99d08fadfd96&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=w8oYsfkj->)

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Chart Review

How Many Medicare Part D Enrollees Had High Out-of-Pocket Drug Costs in 2017?

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7:30 am

American Hospital Association: Dynamic Leadership for Shared Governance
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f97488290c17e8fa651a63a1ae17c70b25cc8e5bdb6a6e18dc0861858f9f6edf68327f3f8ecc0b0da&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=0_kSaytDAwobIF HIZ0iMW_z4c6DxqMaQ7-m72KqjJDk&e=>

8:00 am

The Hill hosts: "Cost, Quality and Care: The Medicare Equation" <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07fd8c28e2aa66992fae4064c4a4a55d57839d690c64271a7ad62019a1de6e272fe8dc6299c0315a3

c7&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=uJ97sYxA8NL-tq5gxsvoJ-d0ZmjuOWNh4FAnjkjR4go&e=>

8:00 am

Brookings hosts "Hospital productivity trends: Implications for Medicare payment policy"
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b443bf34e893e3b5a95d5574d06ab2bfd4b5b3bd2718a09b985f018c0ad2de49f07f7f66307959af7&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=mMLMMc4UXdHWcDjZAX1DKRqCgOL0pzP9uxl5JJBWJhs&e=>

9:30 am

House Committee on Energy and Commerce hearing on health programs for families
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b9adda6153d00346f7874ea2c37b231f9506ee1dfbe06bb6fd62edb81d59af611a484cd233edf503b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=fKINAuubBwb2GqJFzKFkRb_r37LGBSabX3ocOWlpPzl&e=>

10:00 am

06/26/2019

Aspen Ideas Festival 2019 <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f579832a81d0f4acf0eae550fcb3996468d15fa2463a1ef6b7a3ad22a6c7b16fc4c8fab263be3080d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=HV6wuPdsYPZNCzAPZVUm0P5Nc3OtmkPmANI_ku9QCs&e=>

American Hospital Association: Dynamic Leadership for Shared Governance
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f97488290c17e8fa651a63a1ae17c70b25cc8e5bdb6a6e18dc0861858f9f6edf68327f3f8ecc0b0da&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=0_kSaytDAwobIFHIZ0iMW_z4c6DxqMaQ7-m72KqjJDk&e=>

8:00 am

Future of Healthcare Summit <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313bdba0e1a1b704cc11f5b1534163db74e091128ca91aad2bb90c4c2405fbaa9f2bdb589f80442caae8&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=SVp_Cg_AP-Bca_vUAXNQJwQlqUnXVe8A7pXq3eCN82U&e=>

9:00 am

House Committee on Veterans' Affairs subcommittee on health hearing on barriers to precision medicine

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313be74beb12f640ce56f42dbf5cf0bd6f18b53ffecb8d1d143187880ddd923a962c137af935a8c07485&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=UWJUfpYFHiuw2A6bzMjheXdE9cDJHVjsSDEsJhP9UY0&e=>

2:00 pm

U.S. Surgeon General to Discuss America's Opioid Epidemic <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b982301d1034cb27fdfe9b69b56f849334022aaf40fd399dd03c9209d74349a78b409998e44cbc9c3&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=ZYRbhUQXYpihcoBQAD5DF8q1KQ3KCwriKd-jLrRP8aQ&e=>

2:00 pm

AEI hosts "Containing Ebola: How to fight the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Ebola epidemic" <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b8e58a2a978062a2fc51a85b0bdc33015cf3a6bcb2840f4238d51f5ddd97c7fb44b595f962c492b6b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=spdDRIB1N5CA7lt8ltyh1x-POo_uZ_SLmtnpTEQXuT0&e=>

3:00 pm

06/27/2019

Aspen Ideas Festival 2019 <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f579832a81d0f4acf0eae550fcb3996468d15fa2463a1ef6b7a3ad22a6c7b16fc4c8fab263be3080d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=HVi6wuPdsYPZN CzAPZVUm0P5Nc3OtmkPmANI_ku9QCs&e=>

NCCN Policy Summit: "The State of Cancer Care in America: The Impact of State Policy on Access to High Quality Cancer Care" <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b982301d1034cb27fdfe9b69b56f849334022aaf40fd399dd03c9209d74349a78b409998e44cbc9c3&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=cLlznALQ5iVGypQ11dFKAcJ_EFCg0mZVzo9zeKe8rVM&e=>

8:30 am

Alliance for Health Policy public briefing on drivers of maternal mortality <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b59517d5fb647378695ed0ef5d925dcb116b6b680c9a49c0ed87570e8354a7164efc64353fc9e4838&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=Kpif4rpXw9IQWYTHZAKPZTFow-xrJiReqAdEnQW5Ng0&e=>

12:00 pm

AEI hosts education policy debate about Title IX sexual harassment regulations

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313b12f3013be8fba1553e62b08499a98dccb5ad123465e672b9885b409cffe8443071d83b53ab24b3b6&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=orHby_VB9bFTLUseKX5Np3S79HZWgvH5p3kM3_iNiLY&e=>

6:30 pm

06/28/2019

Aspen Ideas Festival 2019 <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f579832a81d0f4acf0eae550fcb3996468d15fa2463a1ef6b7a3ad22a6c7b16fc4c8fab263be3080d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=HVi6wuPdsYPZN CzAPZVUm0P5Nc3OtmkPmANI_ku9QCs&e=>

AEI event on health risks and policy problems of cannabis legislation

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3Defbd43740398313be857393f1c547bb5e066d96446d7db41a5d84a4c0372191ec393ce61b37d1512db45b6f88289a552&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=KF998jnyUpeyCl4 KAZgPpFXTQw2EmEL50-qli1TpZY8&e=>

9:00 am

Bipartisan Policy Center hosts: "Good Health is Good Business" <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f3902f0bd738b3f8bd84bc1ab68e2756ea20a09180faabe8595dcec280aa804f833fd245652f98444&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=l6dxDIBkKuwh5NJmqJOCQUnqQOxgvF-nVOMuYaDbtto&e=>

10:00 am

06/29/2019

Aspen Ideas Festival 2019 <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D1a286870e7e6c07f579832a81d0f4acf0eae550fcb3996468d15fa2463a1ef6b7a3ad22a6c7b16fc4c8fab263be3080d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=HVi6wuPdsYPZN CzAPZVUm0P5Nc3OtmkPmANI_ku9QCs&e=>

View full calendar <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4fd2bc54b284cfd5724b7ff1b1405cebe4ee863136f6ff2756d41f1e498eae280e8bf31f5c82d53c&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=KAuDpJuNlr-S_zl8nhDR3ol2sJaYPiqpMu8gcOV-VIY&e=>

SPONSORED BY BETTER MEDICARE ALLIANCE

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4fa54461673d53e9ea47608694c0bb65fcbfb620692588aca65c8a68abdbb93b5381a9b651a4b7eaae&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=u7_8i9ijMWyqJZdmSdLtJPRV-l1MAVlxuYyvCnw--lA&e=>

Don't miss the conversation surrounding Medicare Advantage. Register for BMA's Medicare Advantage Summit 2019: July 22nd - 23rd 2019

Join leading policymakers, providers, insurers, community partners and advocates at Better Medicare Alliance's Medicare Advantage Summit 2019. This summit is the only event that brings together plans, providers, patients and government officials to improve quality, cost and access to Medicare Advantage. Your participation is crucial to increase innovation and care available through Medicare Advantage for seniors. Help us get to a healthier future, today. Register to attend here - we look forward to it.

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4fa54461673d53e9ea47608694c0bb65fcbfb620692588aca65c8a68abdbb93b5381a9b651a4b7eaae&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=u7_8i9ijMWyqJZdmSdLtJPRV-l1MAVlxuYyvCnw--lA&e=>

General

How the Democratic Candidates Responded to a Health Care Policy Survey

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f9916bd54a1e32d4fcfaacaff963c10f73751536ff8815edeecad9f824c95530c61a95f3416cd8926&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=R-GtelwN5ZOFSSmKpOYQXQPWePV25bkdJ68ZRD0qJ2w&e=>

The New York Times

When the 2020 Democrats were asked the best way to improve the health care system, a split in the field was revealed. Here are full responses from 19 candidates.

San Francisco Set to Ban E-Cigarettes <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4ffdf76b089bbbed5a5ff124f33a3d67f3770355382a14f3ef893e2214dc360c19f7d37f488a81887&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=qnmixfwDqGq2Qqv_3Bu_Fa3oJBSKBevlvpOX1JzaCtk&e=>

Talal Ansari, The Wall Street Journal

San Francisco is expected to become the first city in the U.S. to ban e-cigarettes this week, a move that will likely pit the city against one of its fastest-growing startups: Juul Labs Inc. The San Francisco Board of Supervisors will hold a final vote on the ordinance, which bans the sale, distribution and manufacturing of e-cigarettes, on Tuesday. The measure will then need to be signed by the mayor, London Breed.

Non-English Speakers Face Setback If Trump Loosens Language Rules

<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f1a7bba28c5963c762095d855687803fd2962df7c6ea19b6ba92b471624d114edaa5e69ecb236e8

5c&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=Y894yuoT669LZvEWK-oHqUcDIX5hla7Tw_e57mcUhdM&e=>
Carmen Heredia Rodriguez, Kaiser Health News

A federal regulation demands that certain health care organizations provide patients who have limited English skills a written notice of free translation services. But the Trump administration wants to ease those regulations and also no longer require that directions be given to patients on how they can report discrimination they experience.

Health Voters have big health-care worries, but not the ones Democrats are talking about
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f7229e4ccdaa61d8dc4f88b1379c799c92ecde3073066b983ca8c6af17b84d80ccdb7a72d848117b4&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=MiwfdlkrBYMtJgyv-Gqxmvyh6U94ChVYYOh0XrgRA&e=>
Amy Goldstein, The Washington Post

Medicare-for-all. Medicare for all who want it. Health care as a form of freedom. As they campaign, most of the 23 Democratic candidates for president are trumpeting bold ideas to achieve the party's long-held dream of ushering in health coverage for every American. The problem is that many voters are not focused on such lofty goals. They want something simpler - to pay less for their own health care.

'Medicare for All' vs. 'Public Option': The 2020 Field Is Split, Our Survey Shows
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f5875399927010092bdf8a2408d3ffa97c93c7cc808b54ff2c5fd172344b825f354df88321d4fe0bf&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=7t_R8nDmiv7hHg1VBNu9xN-vkJ0qeU3dTqLmwMDqb40&e=>
Abby Goodnough and Trip Gabriel, The New York Times

We asked the Democratic presidential candidates how they would improve the health care system. Some want to eliminate private insurance, but many others said that was a step too far.

Democratic group's poll shows Trump vulnerable with his base on health care
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f0929c81ea366a5f39d16e9499d0351b25d0a1c4614abbe904aec6ec3c32629b47ffb0f83dc4cd602&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=7NjtD8RnEb6xcNC2iBPOK8ogtWNqWWp18Yy99KBj32Y&e=>
Scott Bland, Politico

The Democratic research group American Bridge is preparing a \$50 million campaign to win over a slice of President Donald Trump's base, and new polling has convinced the organization that Trump is vulnerable on pocketbook issues, especially health care, among white working-class voters.

2020 Democrats strongly defend abortion rights at forum <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D5276f3177281dc4f7613bc521718549490c5dfb16e879fcb60479458254012bc4b02f9b02c87b25771bd4a21ab4c8bb&a&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=l-Kp7XGvOcMKRNEEpfaGHM0Mnlw0NI2eYGCpiMru53g&e=>

Will Weissert, The Associated Press

Twenty Democratic presidential candidates attending a Planned Parenthood forum on Saturday vowed to defend abortion rights under nearly any circumstance while largely ignoring nuances around the issue that have already roiled their party heading into the 2020 election.

Biden defends record on abortion at Planned Parenthood forum <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc92911550499b0f7759a5b86daa21913d2e736d0ce65980cd29a103fd11e3bd3df41c041d8e9dc90420666db&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=JBH29vgBftl04RlcnSjFEijTNvawg71Nfl0cOffgu0&e=>>
Colby Itkowitz and Emily Davies, The Washington Post

A military veteran from West Virginia rose from the audience, her voice quivering as she relayed to former vice president Joe Biden that she'd been sexually assaulted multiple times and had had three abortions.

Nebraska slowly rolls out voter-approved Medicaid expansion <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc92911554c91b789305086381d45df13f37dcd19e6c4ce9777710d7b226cc52620f672070b983c261e2ca537&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=sD7c7x5dTel5zsN8TeEquUbqqiSotekXwfl9ejBPQZ8&e=>>
Grant Schulte, The Associated Press

Marti Poll knows she should see a doctor. Sometimes she has a severe tightness in her chest. She also has chronic sinus and ear infections. But she can't afford the medical bills, so she simply waits and hopes the pain will subside.

Fear, Misinformation, And Measles Spread In Brooklyn <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc9291155812f270130d3794c1cf9f2c076211c32790bc692e37651fa2bf69aaf92966e7aa15dc19b66dabae1&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=Mf_UhaUM-P4KrC0c3WMndnHp7uINpCFsLWimC9xncKE&e=>>
Amanda Schaffer, Wired

It was October 31, a balmy day in Brooklyn, and Alexander Arroyo was walking around his neighborhood dressed as an octopus, pushing his 2-month-old daughter in a carriage, as his wife chased their toddler through the after-school Halloween trick-or-treat crowd. As the family filled their bags with candy, Arroyo's phone rang and he stopped to answer it, trying to hear over the din of excited children.

Majority of sunscreens could flunk proposed FDA standards for safety and efficacy, report to say <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc929115579d3c83717f75c7dfbc5df142bda2d970e1c08eae0249673f349117bde8cfc900cbbaea1a20dd3fb&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=yztSN14h-_M6zeSS7NKXQkl4VrYh_qnjFnGBrU1hue0&e=>>
Sande LaMotte, CNN

Nearly two-thirds of all sunscreens evaluated by the Environmental Working Group would probably not be considered safe and effective under standards proposed by the US Food and Drug Administration, the consumer advocacy group

will announce this week. The group will release its analysis as part of its 2019 Guide to Sunscreens, a yearly report on sunscreen safety that the nonprofit began in 2006.

Medical groups warn climate change is a 'health emergency' <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc9291155fa6c868d7801ea074b3c39935bd233fb63a6274c6fe2df85596071da1ada805e1c3d708663005180&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=G6D8Kso-n61DzA897MECVkTjAzGnj1l-SBCSICvj0gA&e=>>
Elana Schor, The Associated Press

As Democratic presidential hopefuls prepare for their first 2020 primary debate this week, 74 medical and public health groups aligned on Monday to push for a series of consensus commitments to combat climate change, bluntly defined by the organizations as "a health emergency."

U.S. Stock Futures Climb as Bonds Gain; Oil Rises: Markets Wrap <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc9291155c3ea3740f4da63e34b4ee03590a6c0b197d2af462c3dd07562263e884a9d0fc4c3a3367d88aa0aac&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=stOAUeX055l98ZRQFNw6s1saYQ9G6DmnL4SWOPkaWfG&e=>>
Yakob Peterseil, Bloomberg

U.S. equity futures climbed with Asian stocks on Monday while European shares slipped as investors weighed mounting geopolitical risks and geared up for the high-stakes meeting between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping later this week. West Texas oil advanced as the White House said it was planning fresh sanctions on Iran.

Payers

Highest-paid not-for-profit health system executives earn 33% raise in 2017
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc92911550fec8802722510387124e6debbf6a04cf171cb20385c70417c47e97ea574436715a7aa1b4dbbe9e7&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=ZdkV5jNAk1Sewk_qvUZGz7pPSwUAksMXLqamynL6ncg&e=>>
Alex Kacik, Modern Healthcare

When Ascension announced the first iteration of an ongoing reorganization, it included a cut to the not-for-profit health system's executive pay. In a March 2018 video to the organization's employees, outgoing CEO Anthony Tersigni outlined a range of changes as the \$23 billion Catholic health system shifts from its acute-care focus, including a reduction in Tersigni's salary as well as all of those who report to him.

Providers

Heart Attack at 49-America's Biggest Killer Makes a Deadly Comeback
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc9291155db55bb310706cf3af96eb061d5e70a641d3959fb8e1c368ea70fb13087b01130ff42862d308db065&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKlmwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=hcs5rehPK_TySA X8dt_fdDSUh5ErY5DNnnpW76n00cQ&e=>>
Betsy McKay, The Wall Street Journal

Younger people, women and nonsmokers are more likely to be victims of the crisis in cardiovascular health, driven by skyrocketing obesity and diabetes

Doctors Learn The Nuts And Bolts Of Robotic Surgery <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc9291155c967f423b861ce24d4d56e4ff18c6c5ad6a8890ffe91dce0573c7f4ee75080f3a658c863334b462b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=Qeic4LldB9eCKN0kOnxRx-3YyAzfm_R-1WqEfYdluo&e=>>
Mary Scott Hodgin, NPR News

Across the country, surgeons are learning to use more than just scalpels and forceps. In the past decade, a growing number of medical institutions have invested in the da Vinci robot, the most common device used to perform robot-assisted, or robotic, surgery.

'Urgent needs from head to toe': This clinic had two days to fix a lifetime of needs
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D19bc3e8fc9291155e5286b8764ae6d77f41d3f72d0a1773f3767309d79155f1fb87b5bea188b41ea73a9683a7bdec930&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=Z_gFYvS5a6vkD1i6COcjfRByGZx0rgK9y4SvSA-4A7s&e=>>
Eli Saslow, The Washington Post

They were told to arrive early if they wanted to see a doctor, so Lisa and Stevie Crider left their apartment in rural Tennessee almost 24 hours before the temporary medical clinic was scheduled to open. They packed a plastic bag with what had become their daily essentials after 21 years of marriage: An ice pack for his recurring chest pain. Tylenol for her swollen feet.

Air ambulances may be banned from balance billing <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb220d24cbd931cbe20618ac11cfdc7dce7963772a55b156f1e6acbecb0e10f6ef84dec1146f2b095a64&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=Z6OZxq_TBcsjPg sX7rtx5Pnd3Y41Hjufsw47WXA_pP8&e=>>
Susannah Luthi, Modern Healthcare

If Congress makes balance billing illegal for air ambulance companies, would disputes between insurers and private equity-backed transporters finally end? Or would lawmakers be handing all the leverage to insurers?

Pharma, Biotech and Devices

Drug costs should be a 'prominent issue' in Trump trade talks: Mount Sinai Health CEO
<https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb22f9c23760e55cf63cf833ae6853100642405af3757c1c42d24491549f62e71d06b6a15868b4bf10a2&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=hh0h5jnZc_c8lDq wyeStFINegca0LBzuE7abowK2L8g&e=>>
Michelle Fox, CNBC

The Trump administration should make the rising cost of medicine a leading issue in trade talks with countries around

the world, Mount Sinai Health System CEO Kenneth Davis told CNBC on Friday. "We marvel at the fact that U.S. drug costs are two to six times higher than they are in the rest of the world," he said on "Power Lunch."

Daily aspirin to prevent heart attacks no longer recommended for older adults

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Sandee LaMotte, CNN

If you're a healthy older adult looking for ways to reduce your risk of heart attack and stroke, don't turn to that age-old standby: daily low-dose aspirin. It's no longer recommended as a preventative for older adults who don't have a high risk or existing heart disease, according to guidelines announced Sunday by the American College of Cardiology and the American Heart Association.

Health IT

This period-tracking app company is trying to help scientists study the effects of weather, seasons, and exercise on fertility <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb22990ca034dc65cce61b5ceb0582e05d03a1c66636d6e70a4be1df074e45c3d88135fdc2c8a12c359b&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=QEheYXX99qr8MNMEbqa7CM-MZhFzpsQzII-fsRVz3mU&e=>
Kate Sheridan, Stat News

The popular period-tracking app Clue is opening up its database of information to a host of researchers around the world, in an apparent effort to bolster its reputation as a science- and research-based product.

A Message from Better Medicare Alliance:

Register <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb2296848481706693d77a8d66f4aab2560865e4df72520a65355d96378bd44c5f0fcffca96a1715c0e1&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=28Zz6h26PlomuGlVJMEpPM0U5FteB4r7jvBaGcN7kys&e=> for BMA's upcoming Medicare Advantage Summit 2019. Quality, cost and access to Medicare Advantage can improve with the help of you, leading policymakers, providers, insurers, community partners and advocates at the only event that brings us all together. Your participation is crucial to increase innovation and care available through Medicare Advantage. Help us get to a healthier future, today. Register to attend here <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb2296848481706693d77a8d66f4aab2560865e4df72520a65355d96378bd44c5f0fcffca96a1715c0e1&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=28Zz6h26PlomuGlVJMEpPM0U5FteB4r7jvBaGcN7kys&e=> - we look forward to it!

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

Congress Must Fulfill Our Promises to America's Children <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb22a82aeecdcd0b397e71b10d23710f44d60d3811b8b781b1d198524ab4a80d85025882ec21ca4c1094&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-

D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=c70ZI3oAG7AEB6
VJ0nKOpCzY-4zVRXJta8sLqf04_K4&e=>

Sandra Fenwick, Morning Consult

This week, Maddox Hatch, a 3-year-old boy from Hermon, Maine, who loves to dance and fold laundry, will visit our nation's capital to meet with members of Congress. At birth, Maddox was diagnosed with Down syndrome, several holes in his heart and just one heart valve.

How Big Pharma Suppresses 'Biosimilars' <[https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb2214c8a4c7e4f949f34a6bf2c5cd42468a61708667ce4a4b2ed870c1ba51be3bb9512ecc69bdc99323&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=oFwc4FfjVwgnKAewfb5ZdY6tHK9sVdrz_jUFiVv2nQ&e=>)

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ewfb5ZdY6tHK9sVdrz_jUFiVv2nQ&e=>

Denny Lanfear, The Wall Street Journal

Biologic drugs-pharmaceuticals produced from living organisms-are at the forefront of medical innovation and hold tremendous potential to improve and save lives. Unfortunately, their pricing has been a driver of rapidly escalating, unsustainable drug costs.

Research Reports

The Health Impacts of Hospital Delivery Practices <[https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-](https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__click.e.morningconsult.com_-3Fqs-3D6ef20cb9f0a8eb22611611f461500ede2f08feada089baac7f54b8618725eaacbf96d3c60d1dac759f30579bf2e6652d&d=DwMCAg&c=ApwzowJNAKKw3xye91w7BE1XMRKi2LN9kiMk5Csz9Zk&r=C0aKhYUsT0lgrOLD-D1nNo4vZ8GBmPQV2uSrtXluXYU&m=XdXEoyfZ3TpKImwCc81CZMfXwy05sRclZOQvuljXHLk&s=K0oGIIK30Ny_bCC5T_tXjXV1hQ3Uc_qwlkWErXEW4rE&e=>)

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David Card et al., The National Bureau of Economic Research

Hospital treatment practices vary widely, often with little connection to the medical needs of patients. We assess the impact of these differences in the context of childbirth.

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